

## Frequently Asked QUESTIONS

### How will my referring provider know that I am getting a Breast MRI?

Your referring provider will have signed an order for this exam.

### How and when will I learn about my results?

A final report with ***your results will be sent to your referring provider, who will then explain your results*** and answer any follow up questions you may have.

### What if I have questions about the exam?

If you have any questions, please contact our MRI Department at (253) 301-6623 during normal business hours.

If you would like a mild sedative for your procedure, you will need to receive a prescription from your referring provider prior to your appointment. **If you plan to take a sedative, please arrive 1 hour earlier than instructed to your procedure and bring your medication with you to your appointment. You should not take the sedative before arriving.**

If you choose to take a sedative prescribed by your referring provider, you will be required to have a designated driver check in with you and remain on site during the entire procedure.

## Your Appointment

☐ MON ☐ TUE ☐ WED ☐ THU ☐ FRI

DATE

TIME

*In order to provide you with the best care possible, we ask that you please arrive no later than the time requested.*

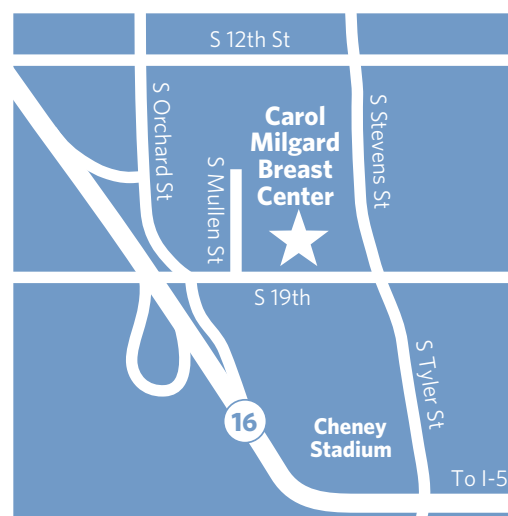
*For patients who arrive **after** their scheduled appointment time, we may reschedule your exam to another day.*

If you have any questions about the exam, **please contact our MRI Department at (253) 301-6623.**

Carol Milgard  
Breast Center



4525 S. 19th Street  
Tacoma, WA 98405



On-site parking is available



The Carol Milgard Breast Center is fully accredited in Breast MRI by the American College of Radiology (ACR). The ACR only grants the gold seal of accreditation when a breast center provides patients the highest level of image quality and patient safety.

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[www.carolmilgardbreastcenter.org](http://www.carolmilgardbreastcenter.org)

## Breast MRI



## IT MATTERS

*that you are informed  
that you are prepared  
that you receive expert care*

Carol Milgard  
Breast Center



## IT MATTERS

that you have the facts.

You've heard the saying that information is power; but it can also provide peace of mind. Being told that you have to return for a diagnostic exam can be stressful. But knowing the facts and what to expect can help.

### What is a Breast MRI?

A Breast MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) is a non-radiation exam in which radio frequencies and a strong magnet are used in conjunction with contrast material to create highly detailed pictures of the breasts.

A breast MRI is used to look at dense breast tissue, scar tissue at a lumpectomy site and any breast abnormalities. It is also helpful in determining if disease has spread and in evaluating breast implants for leakage or rupture. In special situations, MRI is also used as a screening tool for women with calculated increased risk for developing breast cancer in their lifetime, or for those carrying the breast cancer genes BRCA1 and 2.

At the Carol Milgard Breast Center our specialized physicians are board-certified radiologists who focus solely on breast screenings and diagnostics, so they have the highest likelihood of detecting potential problems early on. Our technologists have also received specialized training in breast imaging.

## IT MATTERS

that you know what to expect.

While you are at the Carol Milgard Breast Center, you will experience a safe, comfortable and respectful atmosphere, with soft plush robes, private lockers, and a spa-like setting. We offer specialized care in a technologically advanced facility, quick results, and close partnerships with area physicians.

### What Will the Exam Be Like?

A Breast MRI will take around 45 minutes. During this time you will be lying still on your stomach on a scanning table.

As the exam begins you will hear a variety of muffled thumping and beeping sounds that will last for several minutes.

After the initial series of images have been taken, it is likely that you will be given a contrast fluid intravenously through a small IV catheter that has been placed in your arm. Additional images will then be taken after the contrast injection.

Most patients find that MRI of the breast is a painless exam.

## IT MATTERS

that you know the before and after.

Most diagnostic exams are simple to prepare for. With a few easy steps you will be ready for your exam.

### What Do I Need to Do Before My Exam?

When you schedule your exam, we will review your health history and any medications you are currently taking. On the day of your exam, you may eat and drink normally. For your safety, you will be asked to change into a soft gown to avoid possible interference from any metal in your clothing.

Since the MRI is a magnet, please let us know if you have any metal in or on your body. Be sure to remove and leave jewelry and other metal objects at home. A locker will be provided for your belongings.

### What Do I Need to Do After My Exam?

The Breast MRI is a painless and non-invasive exam. No specific aftercare is required.

If you have questions or are curious about the exam at any time, do not hesitate to ask your technologist or radiologist. **It's important that you are informed!**

