

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF THE STUDY? Unlike x-rays or CT-scans, MRI does not involve any ionizing radiation. However, the tasks may cause some fatigue similar to reading a book or doing homework. You may also experience discomfort from lying still. If this happens, please let us know and we will arrange for you to adjust your position. Additionally:

- The safety of MRI has been evaluated over the past 20 years and no short-term effects have been observed. However, the long-term effects of MRI on the body are not fully known. Some individuals with claustrophobia (fear of closed or confining spaces) may find the MRI equipment too confining. In that case, you can request to be removed from the scanner and this will be done immediately. If you have any concerns about this, you can be placed in a MRI simulator to determine if the confining aspects and noises are too uncomfortable.
- The MRI scanner makes sounds variously described as “thumping”, “pounding”, “banging”, “chirping” and “buzzing; these sounds can be loud. You will be required to wear protective earplugs and headphones during scanning to reduce the noise. However, you will be able to hear the technologist and he/she can hear your voice when you respond.
- The investigators for this research project are not licensed or trained diagnosticians or clinicians. The testing performed in this project is not intended to find abnormalities, and the images or data collected do not comprise a diagnostic or clinical study. The investigators and the University of Missouri are not responsible for failing to find abnormalities. However, on occasion the investigators may perceive possible abnormalities. When this occurs, the Brain Imaging Center will consult with a specialist. If the specialist determines that additional inquiry is warranted, a staff person from the Brain Imaging Center will contact you. In such case, you are advised to consult with a licensed physician to determine whether further examination or treatment would be prudent. The investigators, specialist, Brain Imaging Center and the University of Missouri are not responsible for any decision you make with regard to examination or treatment. Because the images collected for this research project do not comprise a diagnostic or clinical study, the images will not be made available for diagnostic or clinical purposes.
- No short-term effects to a fetus from this procedure have been observed. However, the long-term effects of MRI on the fetus are not fully known. Therefore, if you are sexually active and capable of becoming pregnant, you must use an effective method of birth control while participating in this research. If you are a subject in a multi-session study and become pregnant during the course of that study, you will no longer be able to participate in this MRI research study for the duration of your pregnancy.

- You **cannot** have an MRI if you have **any metal in or near your brain** such as an aneurysm clip or a cochlear implant, or other contra-indicated implants such as a pacemaker for your heart or metal-containing prostheses (like a ‘stent’ or a heart valve, hearing aids, etc.). For example, welders and metal workers may be at risk for a MRI because they may have gotten small metal fragments in their eyes. This would be dangerous inside the magnet. There are also possible risks for participants if metal objects are drawn to the magnet while a participant is within or near the bore. Accordingly, you will be asked to leave all jewelry and metal objects outside of the testing area. No loose metal objects will be allowed near the magnet. Many items of clothing contain metal hooks, wires, etc. and some of these cannot be worn in the MRI device. We have clean garments that you can wear in this case.
- There may be some unanticipated risks or side effects involved with your participation in this research study. Since 1981, there is no evidence that high magnetic fields endanger health on a short or long term basis. Therefore the potential health risk is thought to be minimal, if any.