
Diagnostic Services – Department of Radiology – Diagnostic Division

SUBJECT/TITLE: EMERGENCY SITUATIONS IN THE MR ENVIRONMENT

PURPOSE: To identify safe practices for emergency situations in the MR environment and to maintain safety for staff, visitors, and emergency personnel.

DEFINITION: None

POLICY: MR Division of the Department of Radiology will develop protocols to handle emergency situations in the MR environment.

PROCEDURE:

1. Do not attempt to run a code blue, rapid response or resuscitation within the MR magnet room.
2. If the magnet quenches:
 - Immediately evacuate all patients and personnel quickly as safely feasible from the MRI scan room.
 - Restrict all access to the MR scan room.
 - Call Radiology engineering. (356-3387)
3. Inadvertent introduction of a ferrous object into the magnetic field.
 - If a patient is in the scanner and a ferrous object has been pulled into the scanner and can't be physically removed causing injury to the patient/personnel, quench the magnet to remove and treat the patient/personnel.
 - If a ferrous object has been pulled into the MR scan room and no one has been injured or in danger of injury, remove all patients/personnel and call Radiology Engineering to take responsibility of removing object.
4. Incidental finding of unknown implant in a patient.
 - First call radiologist. Leave patient in scanner.
 - Radiologist will decide to finish exam or terminate the MR procedure.
 - When finished remove patient slowly as possible from the scanner.
 - **DO NOT** allow patient to sit up.
 - Laterally slide patient off the MR table onto a MR safe cart without sitting the patient up until they are out of the MR scan room.
 - Radiologist will examine patient after removal from the MR scan room.
 - Fill out a Patient Safety Net (PSN) report.
5. Fire

- First evacuate Patient from scan room.
- Evacuate Patients from the department following the **RACE** fire safety procedures.
- As soon as possible and if the situation allows to be done safely; push emergency power off button for the MR scan rooms after patients have been removed. **Do not** push the quench button for the MR scan rooms.