

MRI Safety Considerations

in the Staglin Center for Cognitive Neuroscience

This slide show is available as a video at
<http://www.cognitiveneuro.org/SafetyLinks.php>



UCLA Medical Center

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Center for
Cognitive Neuroscience

The purpose of this video is to alert all personnel working at the Staglin Center for Cognitive Neuroscience to the safety hazards associated with the MR scanner and to offer a set of guidelines for the safe use of the equipment.

No one should ever enter the MRI magnet room unaccompanied by a safety trained individual. Becoming safety certified requires several steps. You should learn about, and understand, the special and often non-intuitive risks of MRI. This video will help to provide that information and is the first step in the process. Secondly, you must take a written test based on the materials in this video. Finally, you must demonstrate your ability to work safely in the lab during a practical exam.

Certification to use the equipment must be renewed annually.

MRI is generally considered a safe modality. However, there have been multiple deaths and injuries at MRI centers. Working in the restricted area without training places you, your subjects and the operation of the center overall at risk. Misuse may cause expensive damage to the instrument. While we expect you to enjoy performing your studies at the center, we also expect you to be respectful of the serious risks involved if the instruments are used improperly.

We have drawn on a variety of sources to create this instructional video, including materials developed by the MRI manufacturers, and by several MRI safety organizations. Most of these contents refer are common to all MRI devices, though some are quite specific to the Staglin Center environment.