



# MRI Safety: Fields and Devices

The Mayo Clinic Arizona Experience

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AAPM Annual Meeting  
Denver, CO  
August 2017

No conflict of interest to declare

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## MR Safety: Systems Engineering



**People**

Administrative Controls



**Process**

Procedural Controls



**Technology**

Engineering Controls



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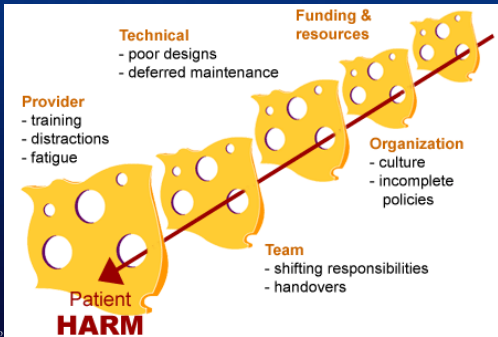
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## “Blame the process, not the people” – Deming



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# MR Safety – Process Designed for People




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# MR Safety – Starts with Process



- Training
  - Policies
  - Guidelines
- Personnel
  - Access
  - Screening
- Connect
  - Empower
  - Enforce

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# Process Foundation

JOURNAL OF MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING 37:501-530 (2013)  
 Special Communication

## ACR Guidance Document on MR Safe Practices: 2013

Expert Panel on MR Safety: Emanuel Kanal, MD,<sup>1\*</sup> A. James Barkovich, MD,<sup>2</sup> Charlotte Bell, MD,<sup>3</sup> James P. Borgstede, MD,<sup>4</sup> William G. Bradley Jr, MD, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Jerry W. Froelich, MD,<sup>6</sup> J. Rod Gimbel, MD,<sup>7</sup> John W. Gosbee, MD,<sup>8</sup> Elissa Kuhni-Kaminski, RT,<sup>1</sup> Paul A. Larson, MD,<sup>9</sup> James W. Lester Jr, MD,<sup>10</sup> John Nyenhuis, PhD,<sup>11</sup> Daniel Joe Schaefer, PhD,<sup>12</sup> Elizabeth A. Sebek, RN, BSN,<sup>1</sup> Jeffrey Weinreb, MD,<sup>13</sup> Bruce L. Wilkoff, MD,<sup>14</sup> Terry G. Woods, PhD,<sup>15</sup> Leonard Lucey, JD,<sup>16</sup> and Dina Hernandez, BSRT<sup>16</sup>

Because there are many potential risks in the MR environment and reports of adverse incidents involving patients, equipment and personnel, the need for a guidance document on MR safe practices emerged. Initially published in 2002, the ACR MR Safe Practices Guidelines established de facto industry standards for safe and responsible practices in clinical and research MR environments. As the MR industry changes the document is reviewed, modified and updated. The most recent version will reflect these changes.

**Key Words:** MR safety; MR; MR safe practices  
**J. Magn. Reson. Imaging** 2013;37:501-530.  
 © 2013 Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

THERE ARE POTENTIAL risks in the MR environment, not only for the patient (1,2) but also for the accompanying family members, attending health care professionals, and others who find themselves only occasionally or rarely in the magnetic fields of MR scanners, such as security or housekeeping personnel, firefighters, police, etc. (3-6). There have been reports in the medical literature and print-media detailing Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) adverse incidents involving patients, equipment and personnel that spotlighted the need for a safety review by an expert panel. To this end, the American College of Radiology originally formed the Blue Ribbon Panel on MR Safety, first constituted in 2003. The panel was

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### Process – Procedural Controls

- Personnel – Level 1, Level 2
- Controlled Access
- Screening Requirements
- Emergency Response



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### Personnel Classification

- **BASIC: Basic MR safety knowledge**
  - Staff who interact with patients in MR area but do not require access
  - Or need supervised access
- **Level 1: Enhanced MRI safety knowledge**
  - Staff who access Zones 2, 3 and 4
  - Responsible for their own safety
- **Level 2: Advanced MR safety knowledge**
  - Radiology staff working Zone 3 and Zone 4
  - Responsible for their own safety and safety of others



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### Personnel Classification

- **BASIC: Basic MR safety knowledge**
  - General Nursing, Radiology Technologists, Housekeeping
- **Level 1: Enhanced MRI safety knowledge**
  - Security, Facilities, Clinical Engineering, Rad Nursing, SWAT, Anesthesia, CRNA, Physicists, Radiologists
- **Level 2: Advanced MR safety knowledge**
  - MR Technologists and PET-MR Nuclear Medicine Technologists



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### Controlled Access

- **Badge access**
  - Level 1
  - Level 2
- **Who grants access?**
  - Security after MR safety committee review
- **Annual review**
  - Disable access
  - Diligence!




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### Screening



Patient Screening



Staff Screening

Hand-held screener



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### Screening

- **Patient Screening**
  - Both verbal and paper
  - Reliability
  - Sedated patients
- **Staff Screening**
  - Verbal screening every time
  - HIPAA
  - Reminders in annual online MR safety training



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### Emergency Response – Move to Zone 2!



- Stationary vs undockable table
  - All MR scanner tables at Mayo Arizona are undockable
- Level 2 training – MR Techs



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### Process – Summary



- Personnel
  - Basic, Level 1, Level 2
- Controlled Access
  - Levels of access
  - Periodic review and update access list
- MRI Safety Screening Requirements
  - Patients
  - Staff
- Emergency Response - Move to Zone 2!
  - Stationary vs undockable tables
  - Code, Quench, Fire, Smoke



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### People – Administrative Control

- MR Safety Training
- Signs and Labels
- MR Safety Committee



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### MR Safety Training

- **BASIC: Basic MR safety knowledge**
  - Mandatory online BASIC module on hire (initial) and then annually
- **Level 1: Enhanced MRI safety knowledge**
  - Mandatory online LEVEL 1 module on hire (initial) and then annually
  - Initial hands-on training
    - Ongoing hands-on training varies with work group
- **Level 2: Advanced MR safety knowledge**
  - Annual LEVEL 2 online module
  - Annual competency and inservice



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### Online Training Modules

- **Level BASIC**
  - MR is always on! - projectile hazard
  - Workflow and screening
- **Level 1**
  - Level BASIC, plus
  - Emergency procedures
  - Equipment labels (safe, unsafe, conditional)
- **Level 2**
  - Patient and staff screening – screeners
  - Burn prevention, PNS
  - Scanning sedated patients



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### Online Module – Mayo Examples



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Access Sign – Zone 2



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Access Sign – Zone 3



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Access Sign – Zone 3



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### Access Sign – Zone 4




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### Workflow Signs




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### Personnel Safety Signs




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### Personnel Safety Signs



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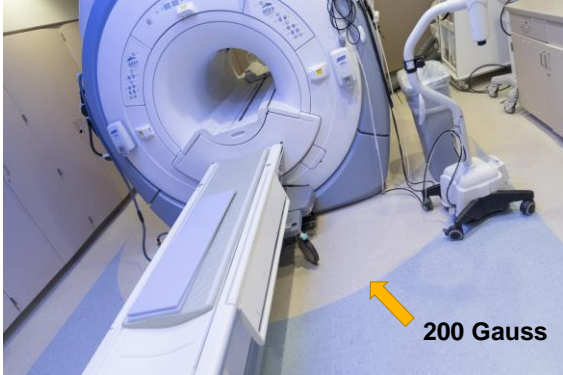
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### Safety Marking: 200 Gauss Line



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### Equipment Labels



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### Equipment Labels



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### Administrative Control: MR Safety Committee



- Radiologist (MRMD)
- Technologist (MRSO)
- Physicist (MRSE)
- Administrators (Supervisors and Managers)
- Radiology Chair – ad hoc

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MR Safety Committee:  
Training and Education

MRI Safety Level 1

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07/14/2017

eLearning Design & Development Center  
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### People – Summary



- MR Safety Training
  - Level BASIC and Level 1
    - Online and hands-on
  - MR Personnel – Level 2
    - Advanced (Screening; Burn prevention)
- Signs and Labels
  - Access and Zone signs
  - Workflow signs
  - Personnel safety signs
  - Safety markers – 200 Gauss
  - Equipment labels



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### People – Summary



- MR Safety Training
- Signs and Labels
- MR Safety Committee
  - Policies and guidelines
  - Safety compliance – TJC, ACR
  - Change management
    - New equipment evaluation/integration
    - Clinical workflow updates and checklists
  - Safety education and training
  - Root cause analysis
    - Safety incidents/Near misses



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### Technology – Engineering Controls

- Construction and Shielding
- MRI Safety Zones
- MRI Screening Equipment
- Barriers and Monitoring



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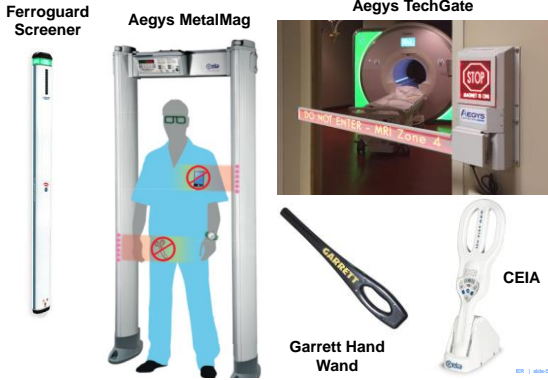
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### MR Safety Equipment




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### MR Safety Equipment




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### Staff Screening Process – Equipment Need

- Any staff with possibility of entering Zone 4 for patient care is screened
- Four step process to enter Zone 4:
  1. Verbally, inspired pat down (self-screening) – Zone 2
  2. Visually (Ferroguard) – Zone 2 or 3
  3. CEIA white hand-held (if Ferroguard senses metal)
  4. Respect final barrier yellow tape or Techgate
    - Only MR technologist can open or close
    - MR technologist has the final authority

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### Staff Screening Process – Step 3

A photograph of a staff member in scrubs being screened by another staff member using a hand-held screener. A yellow arrow points to the device with the text "Hand-held screener".

- Detects ferrous vs non-ferrous metal
- MR technologist has final authority to clear items flagged by screeners for zone 4 entry
- Balance between safety, efficiency and flexibility
- Empowers MR Technologists!

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### Final Barrier – Step 4




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### Enforcement



Only MR technologist can open or close the final barrier! No ducking!

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### Enforcement – Smile, You are on Camera!

#### Zone 3 - Control Room

Zone 3 is the location of the control room for the MRI scanners. It can be shared between multiple MRI scanners.

The MRI technologists are in charge of patient and staff safety in Zones 3 and 4.

#### REMEMBER!

MCA MRI Safety policy requires everyone to comply with the MRI technologists instructions in the MRI environment.

This area is video monitored 24/7 by Security.




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### Technology - Summary



- Construction and Shielding
  - Fringe field
  - Pressure release hatch
- MRI Safety Zones
  - Get involved in design phase (just like radiation shielding)
- MRI Screening Equipment
  - Site process will determine what's best
  - Empower the technologists
- Barriers and Monitoring
  - Key for safety enforcement!



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### PEER REVIEW

BONUS



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### Peer Review



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