



### ABOUT OPEN AIR MRI OF CENLA

Open Air MRI of Cenla, located at 5413 Jackson Street Extension in Alexandria, offers high quality diagnostic imaging services to patients in Central Louisiana.

### OUR HISTORY

In 1996, Open Air MRI of Cenla, brought the comfort and convenience of the first and only outpatient Open Air MRI center to patients in Central Louisiana. Patient and physician acceptance was so great, Open Air MRI of Cenla now operates two open MRI scanners, including the new Siemens Espree, a high field performance open MRI system. To increase its level of service to the medical community, Open Air MRI of Cenla added a 16 slice CT scanner in 2008, allowing patients the added convenience of having their CT scans performed at a free-standing outpatient facility.

### OUR STAFF

We have an experienced medical team with MRI and CT Registered Technologists and ACLS Certified Registered Nurses. These professional and courteous individuals will perform your study and attend to your needs during your scan. Our business office staff will assist you by scheduling your scan at a convenient time and securing any insurance pre-certification necessary.

### FIRST-CLASS IMAGING INTERPRETATION

Our Radiologists are Board Certified by the American Board of Radiology and, through constant continuing education, they stay up to date on the latest imaging technology.

**KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN.**

## YOUR APPOINTMENT

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Do you only accept specific Insurance Providers?

We are affiliated with most insurance companies including medicare and medicaid.

#### How long do exams last?

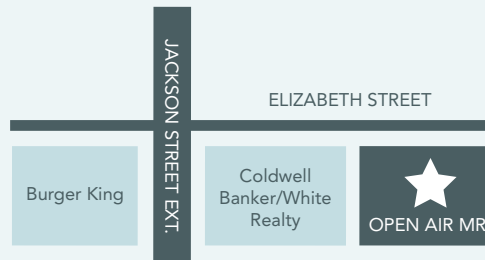
MRI exams typically last about 30-45 minutes, CT exams can take approximately 15-45 minutes depending on the type of scan.

#### Do I need to be prepared to pay for my exam at the time of my appointment?

For patients covered by insurance, any additional money due, such as co-payments and deductibles, will be billed to you.

#### Can anyone accompany a patient in the MRI exam room?

Yes, for MRI exams of pediatric, physically challenged or senior patients may be accompanied by a parent or support person during the actual testing. Any person accompanying a patient will be screened before entering the MRI suite.



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[www.openairmri.com](http://www.openairmri.com)

# A NEW DEFINITION OF COMFORT

The most comfortable MRI experience for all types of patients



MRI • CT (CAT SCAN)  
BREAST MRI • PET/CT  
DIGITAL XRAY • LAB WORK  
BONE SCANS

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## PATIENT FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES

### MAXIMUM COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE

**Patient Friendly** — The oversized apertures enable parents to support and comfort their children during their child's exam.

**Low Anxiety** — The design of this magnet will make it easier for large patients and those with claustrophobia to have a MRI exam without the anxiety of a closed tunnel.

**Serving All Patients** — The extra wide openings are also well-suited for larger patients weighing up to 450 lbs.

**No Waiting** — Open Air MRI of Cenla has two open MRI units allowing you to have your scan as soon as we have insurance authorization.



## WHAT IS AN MRI?

MRI, or Magnetic Resonance Imaging is one of the most advanced diagnostic tools used by physicians today. Your doctor will be able to see inside your body without surgery.

The Open Air MRI scanner uses a powerful magnet which causes your body's hydrogen atoms to align themselves so they can receive radio signals. When your body receives these signals, it sends its own back to the machine. Each type of tissue sends back a slightly different signal. A computer processes these signals to produce a detailed image of the tissues, muscles, nerves, and bones in your body.

### PREPARING FOR YOUR MRI SCAN

You do not have to do anything special before your MRI exam, **but there are some very important things to remember.**

- > Make sure you notify the technologist if you have any metal in your body or have possible metal fragments in your eyes (welders, etc.) It is NOT recommended that you undergo an MRI exam if you have a pacemaker, aneurysm clips, cochlear implants, or any metal devices in your body.
- > Your personal items **MUST** be kept at a safe distance from the magnet. You may ask your technologist where to put your belongings.
- > Notify the nurse or technologist if you are pregnant or suspect that you may be pregnant.
- > Avoid using hairspray or deodorant and don't wear eye makeup on the day of your exam.
- > MRI Exams typically last 30 to 45 minutes.
- > Onsite Bun-Creat lab screenings available

### DURING THE SCAN

All you need to do is lie still. The exam is simple and painless. Our attentive and professional staff will answer any questions and assist in your comfort.

### AFTER THE SCAN.

You may resume your normal activities unless otherwise instructed by your doctor. Our board-certified Radiologists will report the results of your MRI directly to your doctor generally within 24 hours of your scan.

## WHAT IS A CT SCAN?

Open Air MRI of Cenla also offers CT (or CAT scan) imaging services. Not only does this open design eliminate the closed-in feeling many patients may experience in older CT scanners, but this scanner is fast — completing many scans in far less time than older systems.

### PREPARING FOR YOUR CT SCAN

- > For some CT scans, you will need an injection of a dye called a contrast media. This will allow our Radiologist to tell the difference between varying types of tissues in your body. Let the nurse or technologist know if you have ever had an allergic reaction to any injection dye.
- > For scans of the abdomen or pelvis, you may need to drink a diluted barium solution. Your nurse and/or technologist will let you know how much to drink and when.
- > The actual CT exam will take about 15 to 45 minutes depending on the type of CT. This includes the preparation time and the time it takes the computer to generate the image. Actual exposure time is minimal.
- > The scanner is not a tunnel, but more of a donut which you will pass through on a table that moves back and forth. The machine will move you into the correct position and the technologist will talk to you using a two-way intercom.



### ABOUT YOUR BILLS FOR IMAGING AND RADIOLOGY SERVICES

Billing for your MRI or CT scan will come from Open Air MRI. We will file with your insurance company for reimbursement, but you are ultimately responsible for the payment of your bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call at our billing office. The toll-free number is 1-800-256-6468. For your convenience, we accept Visa, MasterCard, and American Express.

Please visit our website for more information  
[www.openairmri.com](http://www.openairmri.com)