MRI Burn Prevention
Tips for Keeping Patients Safe

Screen patients for implants, devices, and other metallic objects. Assume anything unknown is MR Unsafe.

Screen objects to ensure that anything entering the scan room is MR Conditional or MR Safe. Match conditions on MR Conditional devices with your scanner. All metals, even non-ferromagnetic ones, have the potential to heat up and cause burns.

Have patients change out of street clothes whenever possible.

Position patients to avoid skin-to-skin contact (e.g., no hands on hips, no crossed arms, no crossed legs, etc.).

Always use the manufacturer-provided padding to insulate the patient. Sheets and blankets may be added for patient comfort but are not a substitute for manufacturer-provided padding.

Route cables out of the scanner in a straight line. Don’t coil cables or allow them to touch the patient.

Use only Normal Operating Mode and Lowest SAR whenever possible.

Keep your ears and eyes on the patient at all times. Stay in communication with patients to identify warming. Monitor sedated patients using MR Conditional monitoring equipment.