

## Safety Talk

Review screening form and discuss any 'yes' answers with subject. Do not be worried about scaring subjects about the seriousness of truthful answers and the affect the magnet can have on metal objects. Subjects should never be convinced to participate if they are worried – general anxiety about a new experience is OK, but they always have the right to change their mind.

Always err on the side of caution. It is always best to postpone a scan to obtain more information and be absolutely certain than to take unnecessary risks. Discuss the following items with your subjects to ease their anxiety and to prepare them for what they will go through.

1. Scanner is noisy- makes buzzing/beeping sound hearing protection is mandatory for all individuals who are in the scanning room while sequences are being run. (headphones to muffle noise)
2. Inform your subjects how long the protocol will run (approximately X minutes, broken into X scans)
3. Subject can talk to us through intercom between scans when the scanner is not making noise. You can inform them how long each scan will run before you start and remind them to stay still.
4. Squeeze bulb is a panic button that the subject can use if they have an issue or emergency that cannot wait until the current sequence is over. If the subject squeezes the squeeze ball you will need to stop the sequence and check on them. If they are wanting to get out of the machine you must let them out.
5. Explain button boxes and how the mirror is used to see the images for functional tasks.
6. Inform your subjects of the possibility of slight dizziness while your body adjusts to the magnet- Have them let operator know if dizziness persists
7. Possibility of claustrophobia; check with subject before starting the experiment. If the subject is unable to proceed with scan you will need to cancel the scan and email [CAMRI@bcm.edu](mailto:CAMRI@bcm.edu) and report the issue. Never force a subject to be scanned.
8. Important to stay very still; scanner can only correct for about 2mm of movement. Pillow and leg cushion will be used to stabilize movement, but remember to consciously remain as still as possible (especially adjusting shoulders and/or legs between scans) Utilizing the cushions and foam padding to prevent head motion is essential in acquiring satisfactory images.
9. Ensure that your subject is comfortable and has needed head/neck support as well as leg cushion for lower back support. If you subject is in pain and cannot get comfortable you will need to adjust padding or cancel your scan. If a patient is not comfortable they will most likely move causing your images to be blurry. Never force a subject to be scanned if they are not comfortable.
10. Room is pretty cold so offer your subject one of the blankets provided in each scan room.

11. Remove EVERYTHING besides clothing before entering scanner room (coins, keys, credit cards, cell phones, badges, hair clips, jewelry, belt)

-Have the subject read and sign all forms prior to going into the scan room. If they answer yes to any of the screening questions you will need to address and have them cleared BEFORE entering scanner room. (Screening, consent, and reimbursement)

-Explain the task and remind them what the buttons do once inside the scanner. It is beneficial to the experiment if you go over your functional task before they go into the scan room and remind them of what you want them to do for your task once they are inside the scanner.