

## The Next Generation in MRI

Stevens Radia Imaging Center has just upgraded our MRI unit to a 7-channel magnet. This multi-channel technology produces a significant increase in image quality on all MRI exams and especially in those body areas (chest, abdomen and pelvis) which are subject to motion artifact. It is the only magnet of its type in the Edmonds community and allows us to take advantage of several new areas in MR imaging.

### *Orthopedic and Podiatric Imaging*

The 7-channel magnet provides improved imaging of small joints and cartilage and greater sensitivity to subradiographic subtle bone injury. In addition, we have purchased a 7-channel compatible foot and ankle coil

specifically designed for high resolution foot and ankle imaging. This is a marked improvement in orthopedic and podiatric imaging. When combined with the magnet upgrade, we will produce the best imaging of these structures in the region.

### *Subspecialty Musculoskeletal Interpretation*

All orthopedic and podiatric exams performed at Stevens Radia are interpreted by a member of Radia's subspecialty MSK team. This group of radiologists has additional training and experience in orthopedic and podiatric radiology. Since Stevens Radia is linked to teleRadia™, Radia's teleradiology network, cases can be sent for consultation to appropriate Radia subspecialists at any time.



High resolution Coronal Proton Density of the Ankle



High resolution T2 Coronal Fat Sat image of the Ankle



High resolution T1 Sagittal of the Ankle

### *Future attractions*

Stevens Radia has purchased a 7-channel breast coil that will allow us to perform breast MRI, including MR-guided breast biopsy. We are in the process of purchasing the additional hardware and software needed to evaluate these images. Once these are obtained we will begin to institute a systematic breast MRI program. ■

### *Dear Colleague:*

*I'm pleased to send you this issue of "Update" from Stevens Radia Imaging Center. I am here to be of service to you in any way I can, including consultation on cases and helping decide which modality will give the best results. Your questions/ comments are welcome. My cell number is (206) 799-1297.*

Brian McCallie, MD, Medical Director

## MRI Diagnosis of Foot and Ankle at Stevens Radia Imaging Center

### *Indications*

- Tendon injuries
- Ligament injuries
- Cartilage injuries
- Fractures
- Tumors (soft tissue and bone)
- Infection
- Avascular
- Arthritis

### *Referral Forms are Key*

We appreciate your trust in Stevens Radia, and we want to make our service the best possible experience for you and your patients. Providing referral forms will help us...and you. When referring your patients to Stevens Radia for an exam, **please fax the order form** to our scheduling office (425-640-4940) prior to the exam. This will help us provide safer medical care for your patients, speed up their exam time and ensure compliance with Medicare guidelines. Thank you for your understanding, and for your help with coordinating quality care for your patients. If you are running low on referral forms, please call (425) 640-4949 and we will deliver more. ■

To schedule a patient, call (425) 640-4949.

Need referral forms? Call (425) 640-4949  
for delivery to your office.  
Need directions? Visit us at  
[www.radia.net](http://www.radia.net)

## STEVENS RADIA IMAGING CENTER

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## *Creatinine Clearance*

To further enhance your patient's safety at Stevens Radia, we are now following these guidelines:

### **For CT Patients**

To reduce the risk of nephrotoxicity from IV iodine (CT) contrast, we are requiring a recent estimated creatinine clearance value:

- ❖ 60ml/min or greater – normal risk
- ❖ 40 to 60 ml/min – moderate risk. The radiologist may call you to discuss the need for IV (CT) contrast.
- ❖ 40 ml/min or less – high risk. The radiologist will call you to discuss the case and will suggest an alternate imaging study.

### **For MR Patients**

To reduce the small risk of nephrogenic systemic fibrosis/ nephrogenic fibrosing dermopathy in patients receiving gadolinium-based contrast for MR procedures, we are requiring a recent estimated creatinine clearance value:

- ❖ 30 ml/min or greater – normal risk
- ❖ 30 ml/min or less – high risk. No gadolinium-based contrast agents will be given. The radiologist will call you to discuss the case and will suggest an alternate to gadolinium-based contrast agents.
- ❖ Dialysis patients will not receive gadolinium-based contrast agents.

Please note: If you do not have the estimated creatinine clearance, we will calculate it for you.

***Please provide creatinine level, age and weight of the patient.***

## *Stevens Radia Receives ACR Accreditation*

Stevens Radia has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in Ultrasound as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology.



The ACR, headquartered in Reston, Va., awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer-review evaluation of the practice. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of facility equipment. The surveyors report their findings to the ACR's Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report.

The ACR is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic-interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, and nuclear medicine and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services. ■