**Bariatric MRI policy**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safe transport and care of bariatric inpatients to Mission Bay facility for MRI imaging of bariatric patient from Parnassus.

**Determination that patient does not fit in conventional MRI scanners.**

The determination that a patient does not fit inside the MRI is not made by weight alone, but patient’s widest diameter exceeds bore diameter. Measure the patient’s widest circumference to determine the diameter. The widest Parnassus MRI diameter is 60 cm.Determine that the patient will not exceed the limitations of the scanner at Mission Bay. The widest Mission Bay MRI diameter is 70cm. The Parnassus MRI technologist will make the determination by using the donut device to measure the patient.

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**Determination that patient needs to have MRI at Mission Bay while hospitalized**

The patient’s attending will consult with the attending radiologist regarding the necessity for the patient to have an MRI. This will require that the patient be transported by ambulance to Mission Bay Hospital for the MRI. The patient will remain under the care of the referring physician during the transport and standard of care will be maintained.

If the patient is in a critical care unit, the patient must be accompanied during transport by appropriate medical personnel including physicians and nurses.

**Screening considerations**

To ensure that the patient is properly screened, the screening form must be completed and reviewed by the Parnassus MRI technologist in advance of the transfer. Additionally, the technologist will complete the **MRI Bariatric Patient Transport Checklist,** attached in Appendix A. This form is to be completed by MRI staff in collaboration with the patient’s nurse prior to transport.  If there are any affirmative answers noted on the checklist, a hard stop is placed on the transport, and the exam is postponed or canceled. If the bariatric patient is not ambulatory, the patient is to be transported by gurney, with a Hoover Matt placed under the patient prior to transport.

**Scheduling and Coordination of MRI scan at Mission Bay**

Contact the Mission Bay MRI supervisor at pager 415-443-7284 to arrange for scheduling of the MRI exam.  Allow for a scheduling window of at least 1 to 2 days.

*(Describe how to schedule in Radiant Parnassus MRI to Mission Bay MRI)*

**Transport of patient to Mission Bay**

Patients will be transported in accordance to the guidelines outlined in the policy, “Transport and Care of Adult Patients for Off Unit Procedures”.

The unit nurse will arrange for ambulance transport for arrival at the MRI suite at least 30 minutes prior to scheduled exam time.

**References to additional policies:**

[**https://ucsfpolicies.ucsf.edu/Nursing%20Mannual/AdministrativePolicies/TransportandCareofAdultPatientsforOffUnitProcedure.pdf**](https://ucsfpolicies.ucsf.edu/Nursing%20Mannual/AdministrativePolicies/TransportandCareofAdultPatientsforOffUnitProcedure.pdf)

**MRI Bariatric Patient Transport Checklist**

Appendix A ([pdf](http://www1.radiology.ucsf.edu/sites/all/files/filemanager/patientcare/patient_safety/MRIbariatric-transport-checklist.pdf))