

# Test Checklist

Your doctor wants you to have an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) or a CT (computed tomography) scan, or some other test that goes by some other impenetrable name. But before you run off, ask these questions:



**1. What does this test measure?**

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**2. Why do I need it?**

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**3. What could happen if I don't have the test?**

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**4. Are there any test alternatives?**

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**5. Will my health insurance pay the total cost for this test? If not, how much will it cost?**

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**6. How accurate is the test?**

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**7. How is the test performed?**

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**8. What kind of pain or "discomfort" is involved?**

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**9. How should I prepare for the test?**

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**10. How will I feel after the test?  
(Can I return to work immediately? Etc.)**

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**11. When will I get the results?**

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**12. Which lab is processing the test, and why did you choose that one? (Check to see if the lab is accredited by The Joint Commission at [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) or by the College of American Pathologists at [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org).)**

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**13. After taking the test and getting the results, what's the next step?**

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**Notes:**

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