

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT

DIVISION OF TRAINING

TRAINING BULLETIN



TRAINING BULLETIN 93-3

**SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING
MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING SYSTEMS**

III. Precautions: (continued)

- Magnet field warning signs at all entrances to the MRI room should be posted whenever the magnet is energized.
- Anyone entering the scan room should remove all metal objects such as: watches, keys, pens, pencils, hearing aids, magnetic credit cards, electronic pagers, hair pins, ferrous jewelry, etc..
- Individuals with steel pin implants, surgical clips, or other metal objects should not enter the scan room without proper medical screening.
- Metal objects should never be brought into the hallways around the exam room unless it has been determined to be 100% non-magnetic.
- Remove accident victims from the exam room and away from the magnetic field to a "safe zone" as quickly as possible. Defibrillators, cardiac monitors, and other medical equipment cannot be brought into the exam room, they may not function in the field and may become a hazard.
- If you are near the magnet and feel objects in your pockets being pulled toward the magnet, place your hand securely over the objects and leave the room.
- If the object flies into the magnet, do not reach for it until it has stopped moving. An object entering the bore of the magnet can fly through the magnet and hit someone on the other side and even turn around and come back through the magnet like a boomerang.
- If you are holding a large object and feel yourself being pulled toward the magnet, let go of the object instantly. You will not be able to stop it from pulling you with it. People have been trapped between large objects and the magnet and have been unable to free themselves.
- Anytime the door to the exam room is open, avoid a direct line from the door to the magnet as much as possible.

NOTE: The source for the above information is the General Electric Company's Medical Systems training manual (EVT-603).