



# Research MRI Safety Committee Standard

## FACILITY SAFETY BREACH REPORTING

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Category: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Safety

Standard #: MR.03

Applies to: Investigators, study personnel, Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) staff

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### PURPOSE:

The mission of the Research MRI Safety Committee at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) is to foster an environment for the safe use of MRI in research at MCW on behalf of the Office of Research. Reporting a facility safety breach can reduce risk to employees, visitors, study team personnel, and research participants by preventing inadvertent entry into the magnetic environment. The purpose of this document is to describe the process for reporting a facility safety breach.

### DEFINITIONS:

Facility Safety Breach: A failed access point potentially allowing un-trained or un-escorted individuals into the magnetic environment.

Magnetic Environment: The area where the magnetic field is greater than 5 gauss resulting in the potential for objects to become projectiles as they are attracted into the magnetic field of the scanner. Individuals who may have cardiac pacemakers or other implants and devices may be at risk to enter the magnetic environment. The magnetic field is always present and is three dimensional around the scanner.

Other potential safety breaches: include, but are not limited to, flooding, electrical hazards and obvious structural faults.

### POLICY:

Flooding or other emergency conditions should be reported to Public Safety, and open access to the magnetic environment must be addressed immediately to prevent serious injury to individuals or equipment.

### PROCEDURE:

- A. All potential safety breaches should be reported to the MRI research Scanner Operator on duty.
  1. MRI research Scanner Operators should then report all potential safety breaches to Public Safety as well as the Research MRI Safety Committee as soon as reasonably possible.
  2. MRI research Scanner Operators or study team personnel should prevent individuals from entering the magnetic environment until the breach is corrected.
- B. If a breach is discovered when no MRI research Scanner Operator is present, the situation should be reported to Public Safety by the individual(s) who discovered the situation.

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