Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machines generate a very strong magnetic field within and surrounding the MR scanner. This magnetic field is always on and unsecured. Magnetically susceptible (ferromagnetic) materials even at a distance can become accelerated into the bore of the magnet with force sufficient enough to cause serious injury or damage to equipment, patient, and any personnel in its path. Therefore, great care is taken to prevent ferromagnetic objects from entering the MRI scanner room. It is the responsibility of the qualified MR department staff, especially the technologist, to control all access to the scanner room.

- As a Radiologic Technology program student, you become part of the imaging team and are obligated to follow all MRI safety policies and procedures. You will review a MRI Safety Video prior to the start of your clinical training.

- It is vital that you remove metallic objects before entering the MRI static magnetic field, including watches, jewelry, and items of clothing that have metallic threads or fasteners.

- If you have a bullet, shrapnel, or similar metallic fragment in your body, there is a potential risk that it could change position, possibly causing injury.

- The magnetic field of the scanner can damage an external hearing aid or cause a heart pacemaker to malfunction.

- History of any surgical procedure that involves implanted electronic device(s), or any implant within/on your body you were not naturally born with will need to be reviewed prior to clinical training.

MRI Safety Policies will be covered in August each year and again before specialty rotations during the second semester of the senior year. The MRI Screening Protocol form must be filled out and submitted prior to clinical training. Each student’s screening protocol form will be reviewed by the program clinical coordinator and the MRI supervisor or the clinical instructor from the student’s home clinical site. The student must be approved by the clinical coordinator and the MRI supervisor before he/she will be allowed to participate in clinical rotations to MRI.

July 1, 2016