

The Open Sky MRI™ ... the Ultimate Patient-Friendly MRI™

Today, when people are in need of MRI exams, they're looking for alternatives to the tunnel-type scanners. They've either heard of or experienced first-hand the horrors of the highly claustrophobic and noisy tubes of supercon scanners – "crypts" as some have described them. What people want is an MRI that is non-threatening and comfortable. Now FONAR, the Open MRI Company™, proudly introduces its works-in-progress Open Sky MRI™, the ultimate in Patient-Friendly MRI™.

When patients walk into the Open Sky MRI™ scanner room, they think they've stepped into the outdoors. This is because the walls, floor, ceiling, even the two magnet poles, are decorated with a mural of a stunning pastoral scene. One immediately experiences a sense of vastness and tranquillity. Thanks to FONAR's patented Whisper Gradients™, patients scanned in the Open Sky MRI™ enjoy the quietness and beauty of the great out-of-doors – mountains, lake, an ocean – whatever landscape the patient chooses. There's even a special mural for children that includes their favorite cartoon

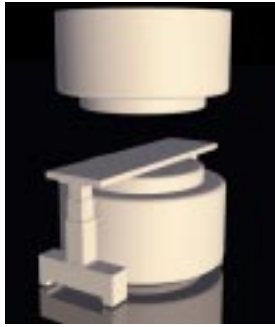
characters. Patients who were scanned in the Open Sky MRI™ will tell their friends they went to the beach instead of to a frightening tunnel. Few can resist its appeal. In fact, one FONAR user with a panoramic Open MRI is already experiencing a patient load of 25 cases per day and a four-week backlog.

The key to FONAR's success as The Open MRI Company™ is its patented Iron Frame™ technology, which allows FONAR scientists and engineers to fully control, contour and direct the magnet's lines of flux in a variety of structural configurations. It also enables the placement of a very high concentration of flux in the patient gap where it is needed and almost none away from the gap where it is not.

In the case of the Open Sky MRI™, FONAR engineers created the ultimate in openness by including the floor, ceiling and sidewalls in the iron frame itself. Patients don't realize it, but the scanner room is literally the inside of the MRI magnet!

The Open Sky MRI™ is actually a special cosmetic variation of the FONAR 360°™, which was designed to provide full 360-degree access to the patient.

Remarkably, although the Open Sky MRI™ patient gap measures a huge 19 inches, the magnetic field strength of the scanner is 0.6 Tesla, nearly twice that of its closest Open MRI competitor. And since the Open Sky MRI™ shares the fundamental technology of FONAR's 0.6 Tesla QUAD™ 12000, it offers the same speed, precision and excellence in image quality. Indeed, FONAR has bridged the gap between high-field imaging and Patient-Friendly™ architecture.



The OR 360°™

Because it provides ample room for an entire surgical team and all their equipment, the Open Sky MRI™ is ideal for a full range of MRI-guided surgical procedures. When used for this purpose, the scanner is named the OR 360°™. Complete 360-degree access to the patient allows the surgeon to have his neurological microscope, life-support equipment, endoscopy equipment and anesthesiologist right beside him at the bedside where he is used to having them. The special fingertip-controlled gurney allows full horizontal, vertical and rotational positioning of the patient for the easy MRI-exploration of any region of the body. Indeed, the 360-degree access allows the surgeon to rotate the patient to any angle and at any time when required by the interventional procedure.

The Dual Purpose Scanner - Self-Subsidizing Scanning

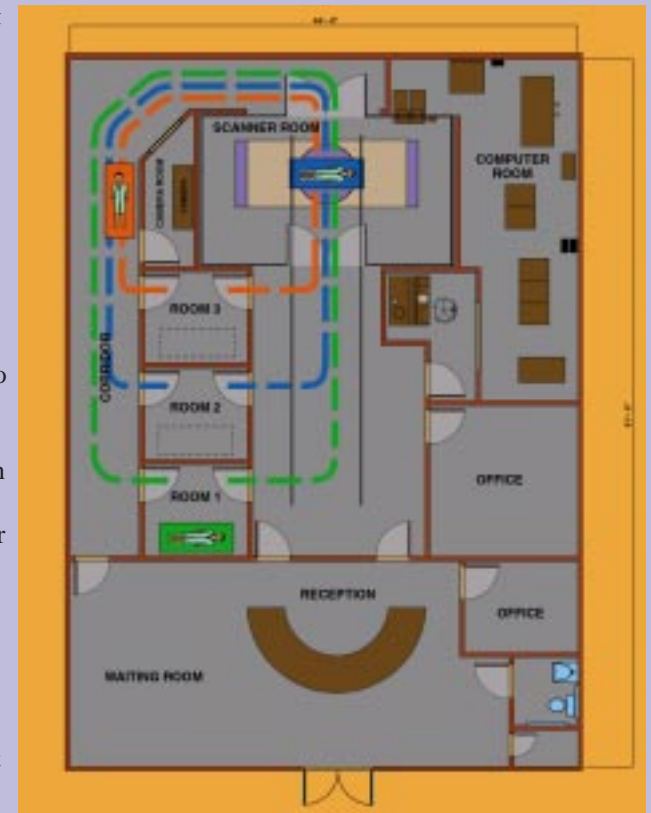
An MRI-guided surgical program can be costly in its beginning stages, due to low utilization and the fact that physicians are still climbing the learning curve. Because the Open Sky MRI™ is so versatile, it presents its own solution to the problem: when the scanner is not being used for surgery, it can be used instead to perform routine MRI examinations. The revenues from conventional MRI scanning can subsidize the surgical program for as long as it takes to stand on its own financial feet.

Works in Progress



The High Throughput Open Sky MRI™ Suite

Since the Open Sky MRI™ will create unprecedented patient appeal, a special suite can be designed specifically to achieve high throughput. For quick and easy access to the scanner, the suite has both front and back doors. To avoid any delays, patients are made ready for scans in off-line prep rooms and delivered to the scanner on FONAR's special gurneys. Once scanned, the patient, still on his gurney, exits the scan room through the back door and the next patient is immediately rolled in through the front door. The Open Sky MRI™ Suite is the only throughput management system that achieves continuous patient processing.



The Open Sky MRI™ is the most versatile MRI in the industry. If it's diagnostic MRI you want, the Open Sky MRI™ is the friendliest. If you wish to keep your prospects open for the future in interventional or surgical MRI, the Open Sky MRI™ invites you to explore this new frontier. And if it's high throughput you need because of popular demand for your scanner, FONAR's high-throughput gurney and patient prep suite meet your need.

Specifications

Field Strength: 0.6 Tesla
Ceiling Height: 8 feet
Room Width: 14 feet
Depth: 10 feet (minimum)
Patient Gap: 19 inches

FONAR
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