

movement. Also well documented is the anxiety associated with the underlying medical problem necessitating the MR exam.



1. Give the patient the “squeeze ball” prior to the exam and explain its use.
2. Demonstrate prior to the exam the two-way intercom system and “squeeze ball” to reassure the patient that the MR technologist is readily available during the exam.
3. Communicate with the patient regularly during the exam.

The MR technologist should provide reassurance to the patient before and during the procedure to optimize his/her comfort. Recorded music or narrative of the patient’s choice can be made available via a suitable system and help calm the patient. While the patient should be encouraged to close his/hers eyes and to relax during the MR exam, a two-way intercom must be available to maintain communication between the patient and the MR technologist operating the scanner.

ANXIOLYSIS, SEDATION, ANALGESIA, AND ANESTHESIA

Adult and pediatric patient anxiolysis, sedation, analgesia, and anesthesia for any reason must be administered according to hospital policy and/or standards defined by the American College of Radiology and/or The Joint Commission.

GADOLINIUM (Gd)-BASED MR CONTRAST AGENTS

Contrast Administration

MR technologists may administer FDA-approved Gd-based MR contrast agents by means of peripheral IV routes such as a bolus or slow or continuous injection as directed by the MR Radiologist. These technologists must undergo competency training for contrast administration. (Radiology Administration is responsible for providing this training and maintaining the related documentation.)

A pharmacist is not required to review the IV contrast order when used in Radiology or as part of an imaging study under an approved exam protocol. However, a physician or physician extender must be available for timely intervention in the event of a patient emergency.

The name of the administered contrast agent, the administered dose, the route (and, if applicable, rate) of administration, and any adverse reactions (if any) must be recorded on the *MRI Patient Screening Questionnaire*.