

an inside view

innovative imaging ct and mri technologies now safely accommodate larger patients

South Pointe Hospital has invested in state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging technologies designed to safely and effectively evaluate patients weighing up to 550 pounds with a CT scanner and open MRI.

Historically, larger individuals have had difficulty finding diagnostic equipment in which they can be safely and effectively imaged. The new CT scanner, called the “big bore” CT scanner, has an opening that is 50 percent larger than traditional CT scanners. This advanced CT system provides a more comfortable patient experience and can accommodate larger patients as well as patients wearing bulky apparatus such as a cast or monitoring equipment.

* attracting patients from far away

This technology has attracted patients from far distances because of its capacity to handle larger patients. In fact, a patient traveled by ambulance six hours from

Indianapolis for a CT scan last year.

The patient was involved in a serious motorcycle accident and needed a CT scan of his pelvis to identify broken bones and other injuries in order to treat him. He weighed 520 pounds and had a fixator device around him to protect him from further injury. When he arrived at South Pointe, the staff was able to safely scan him, with the fixator device in place, in just 15 minutes. We provided him with a CD-ROM of his images for diagnosis and treatment upon his return home.



The advanced open MRI can accommodate patients weighing up to 550 pounds, and its ultra-wide, rectangular opening helps patients stay comfortable during the scan.



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This new CT produces crisp, detailed images of the body in mere seconds.

Computed tomography can help doctors detect and diagnose diseases such as heart disease, cancer, stroke and lung disease. For patients, quicker scan times and an open design offer a more comfortable experience—especially for patients who are claustrophobic or obese.

* open mri

The advanced open MRI can accommodate patients weighing up to 550 pounds. It has an ultra-wide opening that is rectangular for patient comfort during the scan. This open MRI offers high-resolution diagnostic images while utilizing a faster scan time. The open MRI is used to diagnose issues with neurology, vascular, orthopaedics, oncology and more.

Both imaging technologies provide some of the finest images available for radiologists to view for diagnosing medical issues.

“At South Pointe Hospital, our new imaging technology provides advanced imaging for all of our patients. And for obese and claustrophobic patients, we offer a diagnostic opportunity that they might not be able to find elsewhere,” says Jeffrey Unger, M.D., a board-certified radiologist at South Pointe Hospital. “Patients who were not able to receive adequate medical treatment in the past now have access to quality care.” **vim & vigor**

for appointments

Testing is scheduled by appointment (with a physician order) by calling **216-636-8000**.

Visit **www.southpointehospital.org** for more information.

