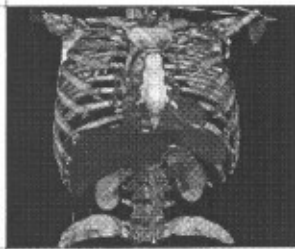


Diagnostic Studies

What's the difference between an MRI and CAT scan? A CAT scan uses radiation and is better for viewing soft tissues. Much quieter than an MRI, it also costs less... usually about \$800-\$1000 but that can vary from place to place. 3D "Reconstructed" CAT scans are now available, as seen on the right.



The discogram, remains controversial. Some physician's believe it is only as good as the physician administering the test. Dye is injected directly into the disc. The patient, who remains awake throughout the test, indicates a subjective response to each disc tested. The discogram, which is not testing the condition of the disc, but rather the patient's response to each disc, can be quite painful.

An MRI does not use x-ray, but magnets to form the pictures. It is much better than a CAT scan for viewing bony structures and can deliver much more detailed images. The MRI usually costs about \$1200.00 to \$1400.00.

MedSecure has the ability to handle files telephonically for five different languages. We also offer full field case management, as well as telephonic case management for Spanish speaking workers. Please call our office if you have any questions regarding our interpreter services.

Our 2nd Annual Free Workers Compensation Seminar will be Friday, April 22nd, 11:30-3:30. Featured speakers will be Dr Eric Phillips, Dr Tom Franco, Dr Renee Hudson, Dr Chris Anderson and Robin Welch-Shaver. A complimentary lunch also included. Please register by April 15th by emailing MedSecure at: TCM@MedSecureinc.com

A bone scan is done in two stages. The patient is first injected with nuclear medicine. Several hours later, the scan is done. The bone scan will identify "hot spots" and "cold spots". The hot spots indicate areas where new growth is occurring. After a fracture, new growth will begin, and this will show up as a "hot spot". "Cold spots" occur when bone is breaking down, such as in a malignancy. Since arthritic changes will occur in most humans, they will generally show up symmetrically; both knees will light up equally. In an injury, the findings are usually asymmetrical-just one knee will light up if it is an acute injury.



MedSecure is pleased to offer case management services in the Norfolk-Sioux City area and in the Des Moines/Central Iowa region. Please call Kerrie or Som at MedSecure if they can assist you in one of those areas!

Our Case Management Team

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