

Mayo Clinic Medical Devices Transmit/Receive MRI Coils from Mayo Clinic

Named Mayo Clinic BC-10 MRI Coils, these devices are highly sophisticated units used in taking detailed pictures of a particular part of the body. They produce high resolution images at 1.5 and 3 Tesla, improving a physician's ability to see small structures such as tiny ligaments and nerves in the hand. This means more accurate diagnosis of injuries and diseases, and in some cases, eliminates the need for invasive diagnostic procedures such as arthroscopy, the visual examination of the interior of a joint with a special surgical instrument.

"Accurate diagnosis is the critical forerunner to effective medical treatment, which is why Mayo focused on improving the diagnostic capabilities of magnetic imaging," says Kimberly Amrami, M.D., a radiologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

This is the first of a series of MRI coils Mayo is developing to improve the accuracy and thoroughness of imaging diagnoses. Mayo Clinic worked with design engineers to optimize the functionality for the benefit of both the medical technician and the patient. Some of the designs orchestrated brought quick reward, such as adding windows to the sides of the device that enable technicians to better view and align patient anatomy within the coil.



KEY CHARACTERISTICS

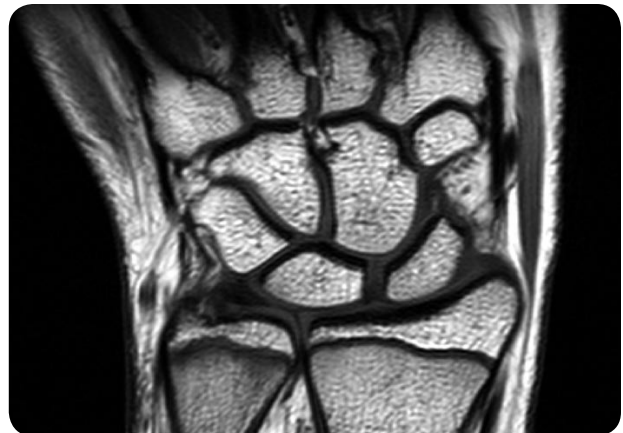
- The next generation in MRI wrist coil technology
- The MRI Coil is an innovative multi-joint MRI device
- Greatest range of view of any wrist coil on the market
- Provides state-of-the-art imaging in a single acquisition.
- Can be utilized directly at the patient's side, eliminating the need for patients to assume a "superman" position.

Mayo has been using these coils clinically for three years to diagnose cartilage degeneration, nerve compression, ligament injuries, tendon abnormalities, tumor detection, bone injuries and scarring within the wrist.

“The level of detail and resolution we are now obtaining has allowed for more definitive diagnosis based upon imaging – something we have been previously cautious about stating,” says Richard Berger, M.D., Ph.D., orthopedic surgeon at Mayo Clinic.

The journal *Radiology* published results from a comparative study in which six healthy volunteers had MRI scans with both the Mayo Clinic MRI Coil and three other designs for wrist scanning. A blinded review of the images by five Mayo Clinic radiologists and one medical physicist indicated a preference for the images created using Mayo Clinic Coil in the majority of the comparisons.

The coils are being manufactured in Rochester, Minnesota. Revenue Mayo receives from this device will be used to support Mayo’s clinical practice, medical research and education activities. Medical centers interested in acquiring the coil may call Mayo Clinic Medical Devices toll free at 1.866.677.8813.



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