**MRI Exposure During Early Pregnancy Not Associated with Increased Fetal Harm**

Synaptic Digital VNR Script

FINAL Version

68 seconds

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| **Audio:** | **Video:** |
| **VO:** Should women take a pregnancy test before having an MRI? A new study published in The Journal of the American Medical Association looked at the safety of magnetic resonance imaging during pregnancy, especially during the first trimester.  | Female patient in doctor officeDoctor/Patient interaction MRI Scan |
| **SOT:** “We already have a fair amount of data on CAT scan safety in pregnancy, but MRI was lacking.”  | Dr. Joel Ray on camera |
| **VO:**Dr. Joel Ray and his colleagues at Saint Michael’s Hospital in Toronto analyzed data collected over 12 years and concluded that MRI in the first trimester was not harmful to the developing fetus.  | Exterior of hospital, B-roll of Dr. Ray looking at data, etc. |
| **SOT:** “An MRI in the first trimester is unlikely to be harmful, so special pregnancy testing or measures are unlikely to be required.”  | Dr. Joel Ray on camera |
| **VO:** Women undergoing an MRI with the contrast agent gadolinium at any point during pregnancy were also included in the study. These MRIs with contrast were associated with a higher risk of fetal death and a variety of inflammatory and skin conditions in the newborn.  | Female patient undergoing MRI |
| **SOT:** “It reinforces a to date evidence-free notion that gadolinium might harm the fetus.”<CUT> “Gadolinium contrast would be best avoided in pregnancy.” | Dr. Joel Ray on cameraB-roll of MRI scans or procedure as necessary to cover cut |
| **VO:** This is Laura Kelly for the JAMA Report. | B-roll and cut to black |

**Additional Soundbites for the B-roll Package:**

“We are now doing more MRIs in pregnancy while trying to avoid radiation through CAT scan…

“The need of a general practitioner who works in a hospital or in an outpatient setting to understand MRI safety in pregnancy is really quite crucial.

“The conclusion to the study related to first trimester MRI is that it appears to be safe without evident birth defects, cancer, stillbirth or death of the newborn child

“For gadolinium contrast MRI, a little more concern was raised regardless of the timing in which it’s given in pregnancy in which we saw a higher risk of stillbirths and newborn deaths.

“We don’t recommend completely stopping all options for gadolinium use in pregnancy because in some cases a woman’s life is at risk, and gadolinium will improve decision making when it’s administered with the MRI.