MR-Guided Focused Ultrasound

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I eat before the procedure?

You should not eat or drink anything eight hours before the start of your procedure.

What happens in the pre-operative area?

In the pre-procedure area, a nurse will take your vital signs and place an IV. Your head will be shaved, and a headframe will be placed on your head to keep it from moving around. There will be local numbing medicine placed in the areas where the pins will sit. A silicone membrane will be placed on your head to seal the space and allow the cool water to circulate.

How long does the procedure last?

The procedure may last three to four hours in the radiology imaging suite. You will be awake for the procedure and laying on your back. You will stay in the radiology area while you recover.

Will I have an incision on my head?

The treatment is done using an ultrasound. There will be no incisions. Your entire head will be shaved. You may have band-aids applied to the areas where the headframe was attached.

How long does the treatment take to become effective?

You should notice improvement with your tremor immediately after the procedure.

I live more than two hours away. Do I have to stay locally once I get discharged from the hospital?

Yes. We recommend you stay locally overnight following your treatment. Please see our concierge guide for preferred hotels and AdventHealth rates HERE.

For more information, call 407-303-4215 or email cel.tremorrelief@adventhealth.com.

What time do I get discharged from the hospital?

You will typically be discharged approximately four to five hours after the time you arrive at the hospital, once you are fully recovered from the procedure. You will receive printed discharge instructions and are required to have a companion drive you home after the procedure. You may not drive for two weeks.

If you are staying at a local hotel, please contact them and request a wheelchair for the day of your treatment, as some patients experience imbalance shortly after the procedure.

When do I have my follow-up appointment?

You will receive a call from a radiology nurse the morning following your procedure. A follow-up virtual appointment will be scheduled with your provider approximately 7-10 days following your procedure.

Do I need to stop any medications prior to the procedure?

- The last dose of your medications for essential tremor should be taken 12 hours prior to the procedure and may resume the next morning.
- Aspirin must be stopped 3 days prior to the procedure.
- Any anti-inflammatory medications (such as ibuprofen or naproxen) must be stopped 3 days prior to the procedure.
- Blood-thinning medications (warfarin/Coumadin, Plavix, Xarelto, etc.) must be stopped 3 days prior to the procedure. These may be resumed 3 days after the procedure.

You may continue to take the remainder of your medications without interruption.

