

Medical Solutions

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Background Information: What is Tesla?

Magnetic resonance imaging systems (MRI) are classified according to the strength of the magnetic field they generate. The unit of measure used is Tesla (named for Croatian physicist Nikola Tesla, 1856 to 1943). Over the 30 years MRI has been used in medicine, continuously stronger magnets have been developed. Where a magnetic field strength of 0.5 Tesla used to be customary, today 1.5 Tesla systems are common. As a comparison: the earth's magnetic field has a strength of about 50 millionths of a Tesla. These days, 3 Tesla systems are also being used in hospitals. In addition, MRI systems with 7 Tesla magnetic field strength are used in research.

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