

IMPROVING The QUALITY OF BREAST MR IMAGING

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The indications for and use of breast magnetic resonance (MR) imaging has increased over the past decade. Breast MR imaging is technically demanding, requiring excellent fat saturation, high spatial resolution, and rapid performance of postcontrast sequences. Patient and technical factors can lead to breast MR imaging artifacts. These artifacts may degrade image quality and confound interpretation. Breast MR imaging studies may be the only type of MR imaging studies that some radiologists interpret, particularly those who are dedicated exclusively to breast imaging. Technical factors that lead to suboptimal studies may not be recognized due to lack of experience with MR imaging in general.

In this article, we review basic breast MR imaging technique and discuss and illustrate patient and technical factors that may result in artifacts. In addition, we provide practical suggestions for improving the quality of breast MR imaging.