

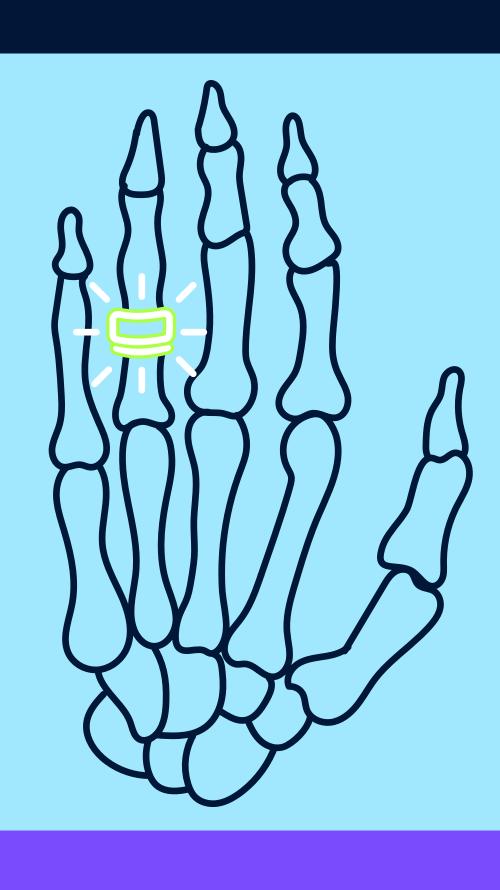
SURPRISING FACTS //// //// ABOUT RADIOLOGY

Radiology isn't just about reading images. It's one of the most innovative, fast-moving fields in medicine. From wartime sonar turned ultrasound to Al tools reshaping clinical workflows, radiology has consistently been at the center of transformation. Here are 10 surprising facts you maybe didn't know about the specialty that sees what others can't.



1895: The First X-Ray

Wilhelm Röntgen captured his wife's hand in the first X-ray. She was startled, saying, "I have seen my death." The discovery earned him the first Nobel Prize in Physics.





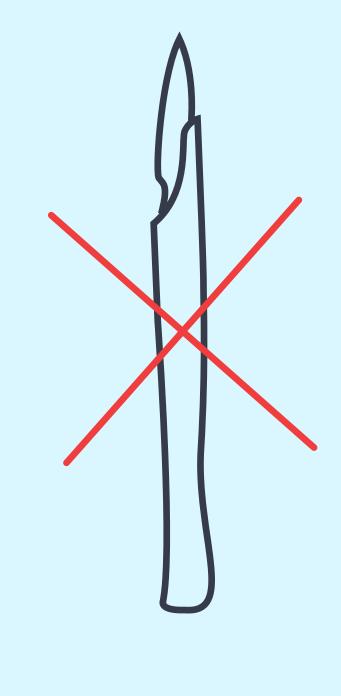
Ultrasound's Wartime Origins

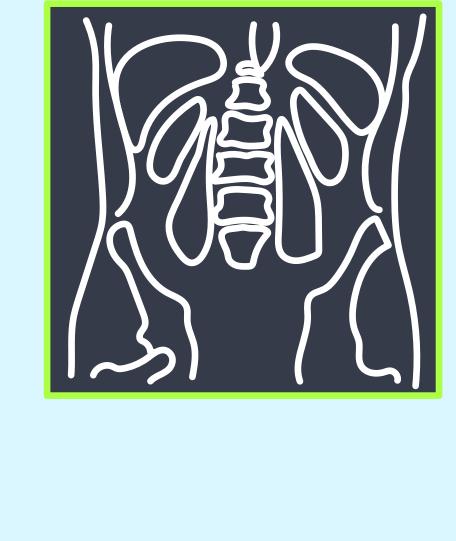
Ultrasound grew out of WWII sonar experiments. By 1958, it was imaging fetuses — a medical breakthrough from military technology.

CT Scans Skyrocket

CT use jumped from 3 million (1980) to 90 + million today — $30 \times \text{ growth}$.







MRI's

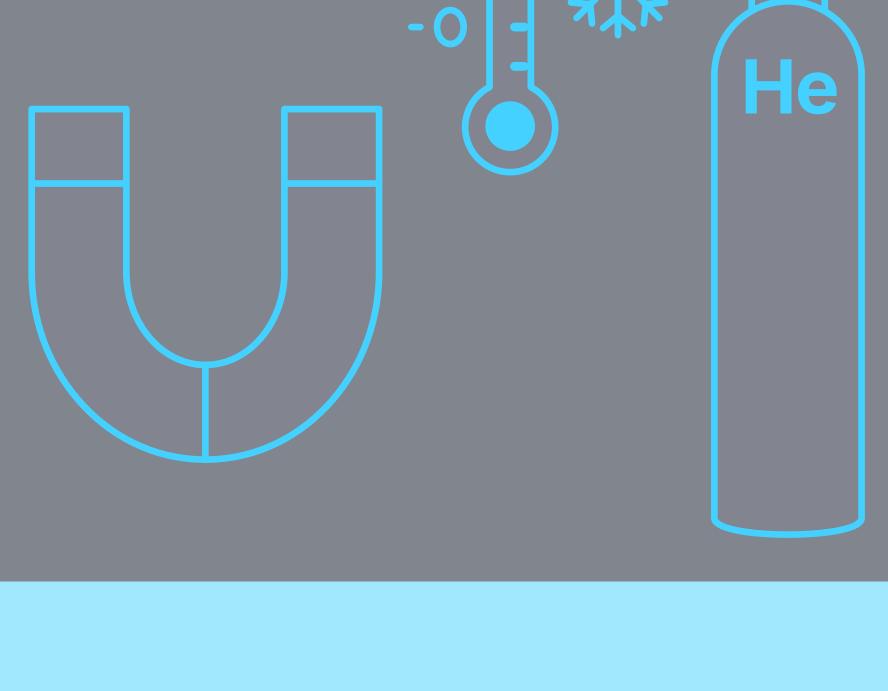


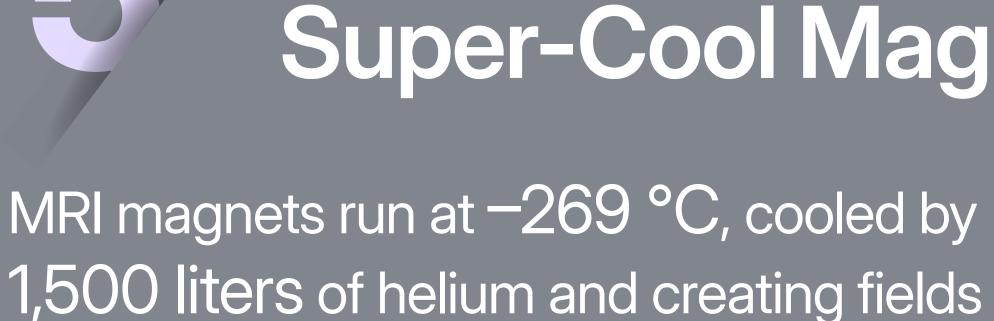
13% to 5%.



Super-Cool Magnets MRI magnets run at -269 °C, cooled by

30,000× stronger than Earth's.





Radiology Pioneered Telemedicine

lines — the birth of telemedicine.

transmitted X-ray images 24 miles over phone

Decades before the internet, radiologists







Radiologist Invented the Stent

Dr. Charles Dotter opened a blocked artery with a catheter instead of

surgery — saving a patient from amputation and starting interventional radiology.



patented in 1985, is now used in millions of procedures annually and was hailed as one of the "10 patents that changed the world."

Dr. Julio Palmaz's balloon-expandable stent,

drugs could cure from within. Al: A Second Set of Eyes

Radioactive iodine was first used in 1941 to

treat thyroid disease, proving radioactive

Radiologists create \sim 26,500 impressions a year. Al now automates routine tasks like measurements and follow-up notes, helping cut fatigue and speed reporting. 26,500



- Dussik K. Brain ultrasound imaging, 1942; Donald I. First fetal ultrasound, 1958. National Council on Radiation Protection — U.S. CT scan growth, 1980–2007. Rosen MP. CT reduces exploratory surgery in abdominal pain, Radiology. Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) — MRI magnets & helium use.
- Cooley W. First teleradiology transmission, Pennsylvania, 1948. Dotter C. First percutaneous angioplasty, 1964. Palmaz JC. Balloon-expandable stent patent, 1985. Hamilton JG. Radioiodine therapy for thyroid disease, 1941.

10. RSNA Radiology (2023): U.S. radiologist annual workload.

Wilhelm Röntgen's first X-ray, 1895 — Nobel Prize in Physics (1901).

