

Talissa Altes

**University of Missouri professor
Dr. Talissa Altes leads radiology
in cutting-edge research.**

For children with cystic fibrosis (CF), the lungs are compromised early in the disease by abnormal mucus production. Unable to expel the thick mucus, children with CF frequently suffer bouts of pneumonia. The chronic and progressive disease leads to a significantly shortened life. Although there is no cure, drug therapies offer hope for patients suffering from CF.

But testing the effectiveness of these drug therapies has been problematic in young children. Altes, who chairs the Department of Radiology at the MU School of Medicine, has found that using hyperbolized gas in MRI monitoring, enables the drugs to be tested much more accurately. Altes, who has been a pioneer in the field of using contrast hyperpolarized gas in MRIs, was inducted as a fellow of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine. Through her work, pediatric lung disease and defects can be assessed at a much earlier age.

Altes lectures widely and has published more than 80 articles and book chapters. She reviews grants for the National Institutes of Health, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Dr. Talissa Altes is the chair of radiology and the Gwilym S. and Maria Antonia Lodwick Distinguished Professor in Radiology at the School of Medicine.

