

## Patient information

# Small Bowel Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Enterography

## Radiography Department

**Please attend the MRI Department one hour before your appointment time.**

### Appointment details:

#### Before Your Examination

It is very important that your stomach and small bowel are completely empty.

**Have nothing to eat or drink for six hours before the examination.**

If you have diabetes and take tablets or insulin please contact the X-ray department as soon as you receive this appointment.

Your hospital doctor has advised that you need a Small Bowel Examination. Any alternative treatments or procedures will have been discussed at your initial consultation with your referring practitioner.

#### What is a Small Bowel MRI Enterography?

A Small Bowel MRI Enterography uses MRI. It is carried out by a Radiologist a doctor who specialises in X-rays or a Specialist Radiographer. MRI stands for Magnetic Resonance Imaging and is a computer attached to a very powerful magnet which produces detailed pictures of most parts of the body.

#### Getting ready for your MRI Scan

Because the scan uses a powerful magnet it is important that you remove anything which may be metal before the scan; therefore please leave jewellery at home.

Sometimes people have metal in their bodies.

If you think that any of the following apply to you then please contact MRI appointments on Tel: 0151-706 2759 before your scan:

- a cardiac pacemaker or artificial heart valve
- aneurysm clips in your head
- metal implants (joint replacement)
- shrapnel from war injury

- an artificial limb/surgical calliper
- worked with metal filings
- had recent heart surgery (last 12 weeks)
- you think you may be pregnant.

## **The Examination**

Please expect to be in the X-ray department all morning . If you have a stoma please bring a spare bag with you.

You will be taken to a changing room and asked to undress and put on a gown. You will be given a liquid called Manitol to drink before the MRI scan. It will take 45 minutes for the liquid to fill the small bowel so please bring a book or magazine with you.

For the scan to be successful the liquid needs to reach the caecum (start of the large bowel). For this scan we will need to give you two injections into a vein (using one needle).

The first is a muscle relaxant called Buscopan. It is given to make your bowel muscles relax. This injection may make your mouth feel dry and you may have blurred vision. These effects usually disappear within half an hour.

**However, you should not drive until your vision has returned to normal.**

**Other eye problems, such as pain or redness are rare. However, if they do occur please urgently contact St Paul's Eye Department here at the Royal Liverpool Hospital and tell them you have had an injection of Buscopan**

**Tel: 0151 706 3949 for advice.**

**Text phone Number: 18001 0151 706 3949**

The second injection is a clear dye that helps to give better scan pictures.

## **Your MRI Scan**

Occasionally you may be asked to remove eye make-up, as some eye makeup can contain metals.

You will be asked to lie on a table, which will then be moved by the radiographer into the MRI machine. The MRI is a large tube, a bit like the centre of a packet of giant Polo mints. You will not feel anything during the scan but you will hear loud knocking noises while the scanner is taking the pictures.

It is very important that you keep as still as possible. While the pictures are being taken the radiographer will be able to see you and you will be able to speak to each other if you need to.

## **What are the benefits of having this procedure?**

This procedure will help us make the correct diagnosis so we will be able to give you the correct treatment.

MRI produces special pictures, which are looked at by a doctor to help make a correct diagnosis.

## **What are the risks of having this procedure?**

There are no known risks of having this procedure.

## **What are the risks of an MRI Scan?**

MRI does not use X-rays and there are no known risks.

## **After the examination**

The Manittol solution is a laxative which will make your bowels motions loose for the rest of the day so please stay near a toilet. When the examination is complete you will probably need to go to the toilet to open your bowels before you leave the department.

After the examination you will be able to eat and drink normally and you can start to take any of your usual medication.

## **Results**

The results of your X-ray examination will be sent to the doctor who requested the examination.

## **Cancellations**

If you are unable to keep this appointment, please let us know as soon as possible and we will arrange another for you.

If you fail to cancel and do not attend you will be discharged back to the care of the referring clinician.

## **Transport**

If your medical condition or mobility needs mean that you cannot get to your appointment any other way and you require transport you should ring the Patient Transport Services (PTS) who will arrange one for you.

**Tel: 0151 706 4676**

**Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 4676**

If you are booking an ambulance to attend our MRI appointment, **please notify the MRI department prior** to this to ensure your appointment time and location are suitable for the ambulance crew to attend.

Your appointment may need to be rescheduled to ensure we provide the best patient experience. **If you do not inform the MRI department of your ambulance transfer this may lead to your scan being rearranged for another day.**

## **Royal Liverpool Hospital - Car Parking**

Car parking for visitors and patients is available at the Q-Park multi-storey car park. Vehicle entry to the car park is on Epworth Street which is off Erskine Street. The car park is open 24 hours a day seven days a week and charges apply. The car park is continually monitored by CCTV and parking attendants.

There are disabled spaces located within the car park. If you require help with parking, ask a parking host at the car park entrance. There is a bus shuttle service for patients with mobility problems which operates Monday to Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm from Q-Park to the Royal Liverpool Hospital.

The Trust is committed to eliminating mixed sex accommodation. The department is endeavouring to comply with the Department of Health recommendations.

Please attend the Main X-Ray department located on the ground floor of the main hospital building.

**Please bring this letter with you.**

### **Feedback**

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

### **Further Information**

**If you have any further questions, or require further information, please contact**

**The Appointments Office**

**Tel:0151 706 2759**

**Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2759**

**NHS 111**

**Tel: 111**

**Author: Radiology Department**

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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