

Patient information

Magnetic Resonance Imaging MRI Scan Appointment Details

Radiology Department

Appointment details

Your doctor or family doctor (GP) has advised that you need a MRI Scan. Any alternative treatments or procedures will have been discussed at your initial consultation with your referring practitioner.

What is a MRI scan?

MRI stands for Magnetic Resonance Imaging. A computer attached to a very powerful magnet produces detailed pictures of most parts of the body.

What are the benefits of having a MRI scan?

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

What are the risks of having a MRI scan?

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

Before your examination

There is no preparation needed. Eat and drink normally and continue to take any medication which has been prescribed for you.

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 which they not aware of.

If you think that any of the following applies to you, please contact the MRI Appointments on Tel: 0151 706 2759 Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2759 before you come for your scan:

- Cardiac pacemaker or artificial heart valve.
- Aneurysm clips in your head.
- Metal implants (e.g. joint replacements).
- Shrapnel from war injury.

- An artificial limb / surgical calliper.
- If you have worked with metal filings.
- Have had heart surgery in the last 12 weeks
- You think you may be pregnant.

Your scan

You will be asked to change into a gown and occasionally you may be asked to remove eye make-up as some eye make-up can contain metallic particles.

You will then be asked to lie on a table, which will then be moved by the Radiographer into the MRI machine. The MRI machine 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 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.

For some scans, we may need to give you an injection into a vein, a bit like having a blood test. This is a clear dye to help us get better scan pictures.

Usually, a scan takes about 45 minutes but expect to be in the MRI department for up to 90 minutes.

After your scan

There are no after effects from this examination. You may continue with your normal diet and routine.

Results

The results will not be available on the day of your scan. There is a lot of information on the scan pictures which will need to be studied by the radiologist (doctor). The results will be sent to the doctor who asked for this test to be carried out. This may be the hospital doctor or your GP.

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.

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,
The Appointments Office**

Tel: 0151 706 2759

Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2759

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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