

MRI Scan

3.0 Tesla Magnetic Imaging (MRI) uses a very powerful magnetic field, radio waves and a computer to produce detailed images of almost every internal part of the body. The images from the scan can then be examined on a computer screen or a printout. This process is completely safe and involves no harmful radiation whatsoever.

MRI scans can be taken from almost any angle and are generally more detailed and thorough than any other type of scan. With our latest Philips 3.0 Tesla scanner we can perform Hi Resolution scans in minutes unlike open scanners and there is no need for oral sedation.

Preparation

Before your Magnetic Resonance Imaging scan, you will be able to eat, drink and take any medication as normal. The only exception to this is if you are having an abdominal scan which means you will have to fast prior to the examination.

It's best to wear comfortable clothes and if possible without metal, this way you may not require to get changed. Otherwise we supply patient gowns and robes.

Procedure

As you will be entering a very strong magnetic field as soon as you walk into the scanner room, all people entering the room must fill in a safety questionnaire to ensure that there are no conditions that might make having an MRI scan unsafe for them. This includes questions about previous surgery, implanted devices such as pacemakers or surgery leading to joint replacement etc.

Lockers are provided for the safe keeping of valuables, which are not allowed into the scan room. The MRI scan usually lasts between 10 and 45 minutes, depending on the area of the body that is being scanned. Pieces of equipment (coils) are placed around or strapped to parts of the body to gather images.

During the scan it is vital to remain as still as possible, as motion will lead to the images being blurred and having to be repeated. During the scan we will be in contact with you via an intercom system and if you are concerned for any reason you can contact us by using a panic button. When the images are being taken, the scanner will make loud banging noises. To protect you from this noise, you will be

provided with earphones or disposable earplugs, and your choice of music to listen to (CD's, MP3 players, phones etc).

Sometimes an injection of contrast media (dye) will be used to highlight areas within the body. This should not cause any discomfort or side-effects, however, if you have any known kidney disease this may affect the decision to use the contrast agent.

Remember

To bring any previous imaging and your music.

