



MRI SCANNING

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET



What is MRI?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a scanning procedure that utilises a strong magnetic field and radio-frequency pulses to generate images of any region of the body.

Pre-scan procedure

On arrival you will be asked to complete a safety questionnaire. This is to ensure it is safe for you to have the scan. If a friend or relative will be in the scanning room with you, they will also need to complete a safety questionnaire. If you have a pacemaker or other implants, it is important to tell the radiology practice before having the scan.

You should take any documents about your implants to the appointment. These can help to correctly identify the type of implant to assess if it is safe for you to have the MRI.

You may be required to change into a patient gown to avoid unsafe items being taken into the MRI room.

What if I am claustrophobic?

We have invested in the latest short and wide-bore MRI. Our Vantage Titan 3T scanner is the widest 3T MRI available and has an open 71cm bore to create a more relaxing and calmer environment for our patients. For most

examinations you will be given the opportunity to listen to music during your scan.

MRI noise is one of the major complaints of patients. Our scanner features Canon Medical's patented Pianissimo acoustic shielding technology significantly reduces the noise in and around the MRI environment for every sequence, every scan, and every patient.

What will happen during the MRI?

MRI is very sensitive to movement. You will be asked to remain as still as possible during the scan. For some scans you may be asked to hold your breath.

You will be asked to lie on the scan table and given a buzzer to hold. You can squeeze this buzzer to talk to radiographer during your scan.

Some studies require an injection of a contrast agent to allow visualisation of blood vessels and other vascular regions. If required, this will be discussed prior to the scan.

The area being scanned will be carefully positioned and gently immobilised using a range of cushions and supports. This will ensure that you are comfortable and that you remain as still as possible.



What are the risks of an MRI?

There are no known side-effects of MRI scans, providing you do not have any implants or objects that are not permitted in the scan room or MRI scanner.

Reactions to MRI contrast are very rare.

If you have a history of kidney disease, you should have a blood test before the scan to ensure that it is suitable for you to have the MRI contrast. Please ask the MRI radiographer if you have any concerns

Does MRI use radiation?

MRI does not use x-rays or any other type of radiation.

Can I have an MRI scan if I am pregnant?

If you are pregnant or breast feeding, please discuss this with your doctor and inform us when making your appointment.

How will I get my results?

Your referring doctor will be sent written report after your scan. You can make an appointment to discuss your results with your doctor.

Who to contact if I have any questions?

Please contact our Broken Hill practice to make or reschedule an MRI appointment.

Our MRI radiographer will be happy to discuss any questions or concerns you have about your procedure.



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What to bring to my appointment?

- Your request form
- Any previous relevant imaging
- Medicare, Healthcare or Work cover information

Patient Preparation

Any specific pre-procedure preparation will be discussed with you when making your appointment.

How long will my MRI take?

Appointment scans can vary depending on the region being scanned. Typically, MRI scans will range from between 20min to 1 hour.

