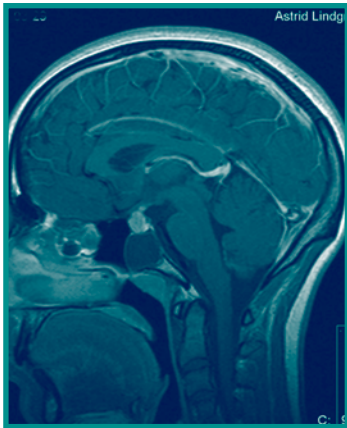


- Any movement will ruin the sequence making it difficult to interpret and also results in longer examination time due to repetition.
- Certain examinations require a small injection of contrast which helps the radiologist when interpreting the scan.
- A two way intercom is installed for continuous monitoring and so you can talk to the operator.

Are there any side effects?

No particular side effects are known, and after the study you can resume your daily routine.

The end result?



A typical MRI image of the Brain

Your Appointment is:

Time: _____

Day: _____

Date: _____



If you have any other questions,
please do not hesitate to contact
us or your referring doctor

Penrith Imaging Branches
MRI's are only conducted at the branch below

Suite 4, Ground Floor
68 Derby Street,
Penrith 2750
Phone: (02) 4737 3300
Fax: (02) 4737 3301

MRI

Patient
Information



What is MRI?

MRI is an imaging technique that uses a powerful magnetic field and radio waves to produce images of structures inside your body. The pictures produced enable the radiologist to define the difference between healthy and diseased tissues with greater clarity than previously possible. It is safe, painless and enables the doctor to diagnose conditions from early in their development allowing earlier appropriate treatment.

When is it used?

MRI is particularly useful in helping doctors diagnose the following disorders:

Disorders of the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord).

Disorders of the joints, especially the knee, hips, shoulders, jaw, wrist, ankles and feet.

Disorders of the abdominal and pelvic organs such as pancreas, liver, adrenal glands and reproductive organs.

Disorders of the heart and circulatory system including aorta and arteries of neck, brain and kidneys.

Preparation

Pre-examination

- Appointment is required so you can be informed about the examination and the required preparation.
- Examination time is about 30-45 minutes.
- Prior to appointment you can eat, and take any prescribed medications, unless told otherwise by the MRI centre. You should limit the amount of liquid you drink so you will be comfortable for the duration of the examination - the examination cannot be stopped for you to go to the toilet.

Examination Day

- If you suffer from claustrophobia you should bring a friend or relative who can take you home afterwards if necessary. Special arrangements for transport should be organised beforehand.
- You should avoid wearing make-up, body deodorant or perfumes.
- Due to the magnetic field, you should try to wear clothing which does not have metal zippers, snaps and avoid wearing any jewellery, watches and metallic objects.
- It is important that you tell the staff when making the appointment as well as the operator of the scanner on the day of examination if you have any surgical implants of any sort.

Special Circumstances

Pacemaker.

Brain Surgery, especially clips for aneurysm.

Cochlear (inner ear) implants.

Cardiac valves (artificial).

Known metal inside your body such as joint replacements but also including any foreign bodies in the eyes.

Pregnancy.

Weight more than 100kg.

Inability to lie flat on your back.

Claustrophobia.

If any of the above apply to you, please advise our staff.

During the examination

- You will be asked to empty your bladder before the scan. Most patients are asked to lie on their back with the area of interest being positioned in the middle of the scanner tunnel.
- The MRI is completely painless and consists of a series of scanning sequences, each lasting from 3 minutes to 6 minutes. When the machine is running you will hear a characteristic "tapping" noise which indicates the start of the scanning sequences. This is the normal sound of the machine and is nothing to worry about. You must be as still as possible during the examination.

Please Remember to bring your referral and any previous films with you