



Must Remove Items

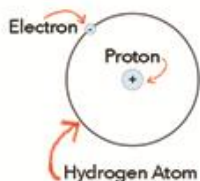
eg. coins, earrings, watch, phone, iPod, keys, glasses, belt.



You may lie head first or you may be feet first.
You can still watch a movie the whole time.



The scanner is very noisy. You will have ear protection and we can still hear and talk to you.



FACTS ABOUT MRI



- MRI stands for **Magnetic Resonance Imaging**.

- *Cool physics!* - A super cooled magnet + radio waves + quantum spin = a 3d picture of inside you.

- A 1p coin will accelerate above 40mph in the bore of the scanner.

- The scanner's main magnet creates a magnetic field that is 30,000 to 60,000 times stronger than the earth's magnetic field, yet hardly uses any power.



Come for your MRI Scan

Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Play Specialist lead MRI

At The Imaging Department

Place Royal Hospital for Children
and Young People
Little France
Edinburgh
EH16 4SA
Tel: 0131 312 0896



SCAN and Find more
information about
Scans and X-rays



Information for parents and carers -

MRI Scan – *Play Specialist lead MRI*

Play Specialist lead MRI has been developed in order to help reduce the number of children requiring GA or sedation for non invasive MRI scans. We aim to do this by introducing the play specialists to the patient prior to having the MRI to make the experience more positive for the patient and parents.

Play specialists use a variety of techniques to help patients prepare for an MRI scan such as books, toys and videos. For children requiring a scan who may need some additional support prior to having a scan the play specialists help create a more positive experience and help equip the patient with skills needed to understand and cope with the procedure. This service is aimed at children from 5-15 years of age who require additional support in order to manage an MRI scan awake.

On the day of the scan, your child will spend some time with a play specialist both outside and inside the MRI scan room. They will plan and tailor the experience to the child and their particular needs on the day. Some patients may need more than one session in order to comply but don't worry, time with us is never wasted.

What is an MRI scanner and how does it work?

The initials MRI stand for Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Magnetic fields, radio waves and computers are used to produce picture 'slices' of the human body. It does not use any x-rays and is considered completely safe.

What will the MRI examination involve?

Your child will lie on a bed within the scanner and will be closely monitored by the radiographer. They will feel no effects during this scan. The scanner makes a banging noise so appropriate ear protection will be placed on your child. Your child can listen to or watch a DVD whilst the scan is being carried out. The radiographer will be able to see your child at all times throughout the scan which typically takes from 15 minutes to an hour. Sometimes your child will require an injection of contrast agent which can help the doctor see parts of the body more clearly and aid diagnosis.

You will be asked to stay in the scanning room with your child. If you are or may be pregnant or have any items listed under [Important safety information](#) you will not be able to stay in the room while the scan is being done. In this case another familiar adult should stay with your child. Other children will not be allowed in the scanning room so please make arrangements for them to be looked after at home.

For more information about the Imaging Department and your scan.

Please visit www.children.nhslothian.scot/the-rhcyp
You can scan the QR code on the front of this leaflet.

What Preparation is required ?

Important safety information

Please complete the enclosed safety questionnaire for your child and return when attending for your appointment. As MRI uses a strong magnet, it may not be possible to have an MRI scan if your child has:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">*A heart pacemaker*Certain inner-ear implants*Metal fragments within their eyes or head*Surgical clips within their head*Neuro-electrical stimulators | } | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*some other implants e.g. artificial heart valves, orthopaedic implants or plate. (hip replacements are generally safe). |
|---|---|--|

Please contact the MRI unit if you or your child have any of the above or have a programmable shunt.

Important information – please read

Zips or clips on clothing can affect the images. Please bring pyjamas or plain clothes such as a plain t-shirt (with no sparkly motifs) and jogging bottoms for your child to wear.

For an MRI scan you **Must Remove Items** – Metal objects such as watches, removable dental plates or braces, hearing aids, mascara, jewellery, including piercings, must be removed. A locker will be provided for personal items, however, where possible, it is better if you can leave these items at home.

What if my child is taking medication?

Do not stop taking any prescribed medications. The scan will not affect the usefulness of the drug. If you have any questions about this please contact the department.

How will I get the results of the test?

The result will be sent to the doctor who asked for this test, normally within 7-10 days. The doctor who has asked for the test will then send you a follow-up

What if I do not speak English?

If you need help with the English language please phone **0131 312 0896** as soon as possible and we can arrange an interpreter for you.

How do I get to the MRI Department.

The MRI Department is in the Imaging Department on the ground floor. Book in for your appointment at the Imaging Department reception.

Keeping your appointment - If you cannot keep your appointment, or have been given one that is unsuitable, please change it by phoning the number on your appointment letter. Your call will give someone else the chance to be seen and will help us keep waiting times to a minimum.