

## MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING

### What is magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)?

MRI is a diagnostic investigation that uses a strong magnetic field to obtain an image of the human body. The investigation is painless, does not require any special preparation from the patient and allows the diagnosis of several diseases. MRI does not involve the use of ionising radiation or X-rays. The investigation is harmless to the human body.

### Preparation for the investigation

- We ask that you arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the investigation.
- On the day of the investigation, you can eat normally.
- In the case of head and neck region investigations, we ask you not to use cosmetic products because these may affect the quality of the investigation.
- Dress as comfortably as possible, remove all accessories and leave unnecessary items at home.

### During the investigation

Typically, you will be lying on your back on the investigation table and the radiology technician will move the table into the centre of the MRI device. The MRI machine is a tunnel-like device, which is open at both ends, ventilated and illuminated. You must lie motionless during the investigation because this determines the quality of the investigation.

The investigation consists of many individual measurements accompanied by thumping and banging noises that last from a few seconds to up to 12 minutes. You will be provided with headphones to reduce the noise.

During the investigation, you will be monitored through a special window and with a video camera.

If necessary, for the investigation, a venous cannula will be inserted and a contrasting agent will be injected into your vein, which will help highlight or exclude certain signs of disease more specifically. The MRI contrast agent does not contain iodine and is therefore well tolerated.

The investigation lasts 15-60 minutes.

### Contraindications

- a cardiac pacemaker – the device may not function properly or may stop working altogether
- a hearing aid which cannot be removed before the investigation
- objects in the body containing metals (metal flakes, prostheses, valves, bypasses, fracture fixation plates, screws, etc.). Please inform the investigation staff if you have any of these
- if you are pregnant or if you suspect pregnancy. Notify the staff conducting the investigation.
- claustrophobia

### Results of the investigation

The results of the investigation will be sent to your treating physician. If you cannot come to the investigation appointment at the agreed time, please notify us in advance