

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 (unless you've been referred for an abdominal MRI).
- For MRI scans of the head or neck, we ask you not to use cosmetic products because they may affect the quality of the investigation.
- Dress as comfortably as possible, remove all accessories and jewellery 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 various loud 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 usually well tolerated.

The investigation lasts 15-60 minutes.

Contraindications:

- Pacemaker - the device's function may be disrupted or the device may stop working.

Relative contraindications:

- Medical devices implanted in the body (e.g., drug pumps, shunts, implants, neurostimulators, etc.), in which case the implant pass should be taken along.
- Objects in the body containing metals (metal flakes, prostheses, valves, bypasses, fracture fixation plates, screws external fixators, 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.

If you have any further questions regarding contraindications, please contact the radiology technicians performing the investigation by phone at 605 0759.

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.