

A Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) examination has been arranged for you.

MRI makes use of a strong magnet, radio waves and computer system to form pictures or images of the body. A large part of your body is composed of water which contains hydrogen atoms. These atoms are slightly paramagnetic. By using a combination of magnetic fields and radio waves, we are able to detect signal from them. These signals are then converted by the computer into detailed images of various structures of the body.

Important MRI Examination Risks

- If you have implantation that will pose threat to the body or interfere with the imaging information, such as cardiac pacemaker / defibrillator / aneurysm clip / coronary artery stent / Intracranial stents / prosthetic heart valve / neurostimulator / cochlear implant / hearing aid / implanted insulin pump / artificial joint / prosthesis / metal device in bone or joint / wounded by metal shrapnel or bullet in the eye / intrauterine device / tattoo, etc., please consult your doctor and inform us before the examination.

Medical History

- If you have any adverse reaction to MRI contrast media, please inform your doctor and our staff.
- Please bring along the related medical reports, including blood tests, images, and reports, for reference.
- **If contrast media is requested, patients with renal failure or renal disease are required to provide serum creatinine within one month.**

For Female Patient Only

- Magnetic resonance imaging and / or the use of gadolinium based magnetic resonance imaging contrast agents have no proven harmful effect on human fetus, the safety of such examinations during pregnancy has not been established. Female aged between 10 to 60 years (excluding with previous hysterectomy) are required to have the consent form signed before examination.

Preparation for the Exam

- Please arrive on time.
- If you need to reschedule or cancel your appointment, please inform us during service hours 1 working day before the examination.
- Patients younger than 18 should be accompanied by their parents / legal guardian. The consent form should be signed by their parents / legal guardian.

Diet & Activities

- No food for 4 hours prior to the examination of Abdomen / Pelvis. No food for 6 hours prior to the examination of MRCP, small amount of plain water is allowed.
- You may take your regular medication as usual with plain water, unless otherwise directed.
- Please avoid eye make-up and wearing colored contact lens for head / orbits region examination.

Bowel preparation

- Prostate: Bowel preparation is suggested. Seek your doctor's prescription for 1 tablet of Dulcolax, take it after the last meal the night before the examination day, unless a colonoscopy was just performed on the same day of the examination.
- Rectum: Bowel preparation is required. Seek your doctor's prescription for 1 tablet of Dulcolax, take it after the last meal the night before the examination day, unless colonoscopy was just performed on the same day of the examination.

Optimal scheduling of Breast MRI

- It is recommended to schedule the examination during days 7 to 14 of the menstrual cycle, unless they are post-menopausal. (If urgent treatment is required for known cancer, the menstrual cycle timing may be disregarded.)

Attire

- Change examination gown to prevent metallic objects.
- Remove all accessories or metallic objects before entering the scanning area. Items which may be damaged by the magnetic field are not allowed to enter the examination room, including credit cards, ATM cards, watches, etc.

Procedure

- If you have suspicion of pregnancy, breastfeeding or claustrophobia, please inform your doctor and our staff 1 working day before the appointment for the possibility to postpone the examination. If necessary, we will conduct a urine pregnancy test for you.
- The whole procedure includes the following steps:
 - Fill in MRI screening form. We will obtain your medical history.
 - We will explain the risks associated with contrast media injection, informed consent will be obtained.
 - Intravenous injection catheter set up for contrast media injection.
 - Examination time varies from 30 mins to 1 hour. You are required to keep still during the examination.
 - MRI scanners produce intermittent loud noise during imaging. Ear plugs will be provided.
 - Take at least 10 minutes rest after scanning and ensure without any discomfort before leaving.
- The Centre will charge for the medications and laboratory tests related to the scan.
- Resume normal diet and encourage water intake after the examination. There is no activity restriction after leaving

Remarks

- If black rainstorm warning, typhoon signal No. 8 or higher, or extreme condition is in force, the examination will be postponed. We will contact you during office hours for arrangement.

Disclaimer

- This leaflet only provides basic information about the procedure and lists the common risks or complications. The risks or complications that may occur are not exhaustive and may vary with different patient's condition. For more information or individual enquiries, please contact your doctor.

Reference: ACR 2024 Manual on Contrast Media, ACR committee on Drugs and Contrast Media