

WHAT WILL THE MRI EXAMINATION INVOLVE?

You will be given an x-ray gown to change into and changing facilities are available. You will be asked to lie very still on a comfortable bed within the magnetic field. You will not feel anything while the scan is proceeding, but you will hear a loud knocking sound. This is normal. The radiographer will be in contact with you throughout the examination which may take up to 30 minutes.

WHAT MUST I DO TO PREPARE FOR MY SCAN?

You may eat and drink normally (unless your letter states otherwise) and take any medication that has been prescribed by your doctor. If possible, please attend your scan wearing clothing without metal fasteners or zips but gowns and changing facilities are available.

Lockers for valuables and metal objects are provided. Metal objects and debit/credit cards are affected by the strong magnetic field and should not be taken into the MRI room. You must remove all body jewellery with the exception of a wedding band prior to the scan.

WHEN SHOULD A SCAN NOT BE CARRIED OUT?

It is not possible to have an MRI examination if you have:-

- A heart pacemaker
- Surgical clips or a programmable shunt within your head
- Some metallic heart valve(s)
- Metal fragments within your eye or head
- Body jewellery you are unable to remove
- Surgery in the last six weeks
- Cosmetic procedures (metallic clipped hair extensions, permanent tattooed or magnetic make up)
- Inner ear implants
- Neuro electrical stimulators
- A contraceptive diaphragm in place
- A contraceptive coil fitted in the last six weeks

If you think you are pregnant, have a heart loop recorder or a gastric band please telephone us on (01604) 545636.

HOW WILL I RECEIVE THE RESULTS?

A consultant radiologist will interpret your MRI scan and the results will be sent to the doctor who referred you for this examination.

PARKING

The nearest car park to the Radiology Department is car park 1 – Park and Pay using paybyphone. The machine also accepts card or cash. You will then need to make your way to Level 1 via the South entrance. Limited Disability parking spaces are available under the Nye Bevan building near the Emergency Department (ED).

OTHER INFORMATION

If you have any queries or need to cancel your appointment please call (01604) 545636. Please could we remind parents that children are not allowed in the scan room and must not be left unattended in waiting areas.

Further information can be found at: www.northamptongeneral.nhs.uk and www.nhs.uk

Northampton General Hospital operates a smoke-free policy. This means that smoking or vaping is not allowed anywhere on the Trust site including buildings and car parks.

This information can be provided in other languages and format upon request including braille, audio cassette. Please contact Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS) on (01604) 545784 or email: ngh-tr.pals@nhs.net

IMPORTANT INFORMATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

We can all play a role in reducing the spread of coronavirus and keeping our hospitals safe. People infected with COVID-19 may have mild or no respiratory symptoms (asymptomatic) and can transmit the virus to others without being aware of it.

In line with guidance from the World Health Organisation and the UK Government we have introduced some new measures for staff and patient safety. We would ask you to please support us by:

- Not attending your appointment if you or a member of your household has any symptoms of COVID-19 (please do let us know so that we can re-arrange your appointment at the earliest opportunity).
- Bringing a face covering or mask to wear at all times when in the hospital buildings.
- Using the hand sanitiser or washing your hands whenever you enter and exit the hospital and the department your appointment is in.
- Following strict social distancing wherever possible and walking on the left side of the corridor.
- Only arriving at the scheduled time of your appointment.
- Not bringing any visitors with you unless there are special circumstances.

Kind Regards

Heidi Smoult, Chief Executive Officer



Thank you, your feedback will be used to improve our service. Responses are anonymous.

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