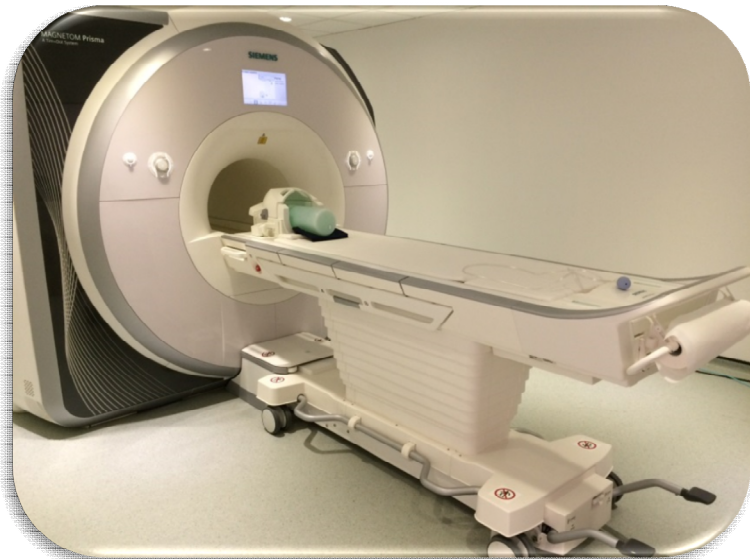


Having an MRI scan at the Brain Health Centre



Brain Health Centre



What is MRI?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a type of scan that uses strong magnetic fields and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

An MRI scanner is a large tube, open at both ends, that contains powerful magnets. You lie inside the tube during the scan.

An MRI scan can be used to examine almost any part of the body. You will be having your brain scanned at the Brain Health Centre.

What happens during an MRI scan?

During an MRI scan, you lie on a flat bed that's moved into the scanner.

For your Brain Health Centre MRI scan you'll be moved into the scanner head first.

The MRI scanner is operated by a radiographer, who is trained in carrying out imaging investigations.

They control the scanner using a computer, which is in a different room, to keep it away from the magnetic field generated by the scanner.

You'll be able to talk to the radiographer through an intercom and they'll be able to see you throughout the scan.

At certain times during the scan, the scanner will make loud banging, tapping and pinging noises. This is the electric current in the scanner coils being turned on and off.

You'll be given earplugs to wear.

It's very important to keep as still as possible during your MRI scan.

The scan lasts 15 to 35 minutes, depending on how many scans we do.

Safety

An MRI scan is a painless and safe procedure. The radiographer will make you as comfortable as possible for your scan.

Extensive research has been carried out into whether the magnetic fields and radio waves used during MRI scans could pose a risk to the human body.

No evidence has been found to suggest there's a risk, which means MRI scans are one of the safest medical procedures available.

But MRI scans may not be recommended in certain situations. For example, if you have a pacemaker or certain types of metal implant fitted.

A Brain Health Centre radiographer will have telephoned you prior to you receiving your MRI scan appointment to check you are safe to be scanned.

On the day of the scan no metal objects can enter the MRI scan room so you will be asked to remove watches, spectacles, jewellery, hair grips, hearing aids, dentures etc... Lockers are provided to store these items. You will also be asked to change into pyjama style medical scrubs.