



MRI Scan Information

Please read carefully.



What is an MRI scan?



MRI uses a magnet and a computer to take a picture of the inside of your body.



MRI pictures give doctors information to help them look after you.



MRI scans do not hurt you.

They are noisy.

You might feel some warmth in your body during the scan.



The person who does your MRI scan is called a **radiographer**.

How long will the MRI scan take?



The scan can take from 15 minutes to an hour to do.

We will let you know if there are any delays.

Are MRI scans safe?



You will be asked questions before your scan to help keep you safe.

Before your MRI Scan



You will be sent

- a hospital letter with appointment information and
- a safety questionnaire.

You **must** call us to check the time and date of your appointment.



You **must** tell us if you are pregnant. You must tell us if you have anything metal **in** your body. For example

- a pacemaker
- hip or knee replacement or
- metal injuries.



If you do not tell us there might be a big delay.

Things to remember before your scan

Questions

1. What do you think about it?

Good

Bad

Not sure



Bring your safety questionnaire.



Do not wear eye makeup or mascara.



Do not wear jewellery or piercings.



Bring a new medication patch with you if you use them.
For example, a nicotine patch.



Please bring a new glucose monitor with you if you use them.

This is a monitor that sticks onto your arm to measure blood sugars.

When you get to the MRI Department



Go to reception. They will book you in.

Have a seat in the waiting room.



Let us know if you need someone to support you during the MRI scan.

They will need to

- fill in a safety questionnaire and
- get rid of any metal from their bodies.



You will be asked to change into a hospital gown.

You can do this in a changing room.



You will have a locker.

Leave credit cards, mobile phones and hearing aids in here to keep them safe.



The radiographer will ask you if you are happy to have the MRI scan.

You can say yes or no.

You can ask us questions at any time.

During your MRI scan



The scanner is shaped like a large donut. It is open at both ends.

You lie down on a bed that moves you into the hole.



We might put some equipment over the part of your body part being scanned.



You will either go into the scanner feet first or headfirst.

It is important to stay still for good images.



You will hear tapping sounds. They can be quite loud. This is normal.

You will be given headphones or earplugs.



The radiographer will be in a room with a large window.

They can see you and talk with you.

Tell the radiographer if you are uncomfortable or worried at any time.

After your MRI scan



When your MRI scan is finished you can get dressed and go home or back to your ward.

Results



Your doctor will be in contact to tell you what the MRI scan showed them.

What we do with your MRI



Your MRI will be kept on our computers.

This means your doctors and other health professionals can look at them.



We might use your MRI for learning, training or to check how well we work.

Please tell us if you do not want your MRI used.

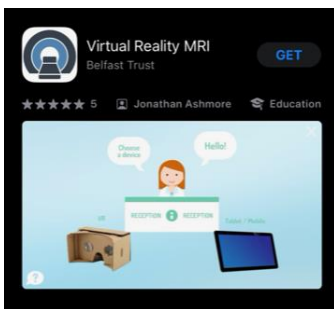
Questions



We can answer any questions you have

- when you come in for your MRI or
- over the phone using the number on your appointment letter.

Find out what an MRI is like



We have a free virtual reality App.



It shows you videos so you can see what having an MRI is really like.



Search for **virtual reality MRI** in your App Store or scan the QR code.

Tell us what you think

**Tell us
what
you
think**



Tell us what you think about your MRI experience.

Use the contact information below.



Telephone 028 9504 8000
(Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm)



Textphone 18001 028 950 48000



Email compliments@belfasttrust.hscni.net



Online
www.belfasttrust.hscni.net/contact/FeedbackForm.htm

Care Opinion



Share your health and social care experiences at
www.careopinion.org.uk
or by scanning the QR code.