

THE PROCESS

The scanner is open at both ends, and our modern scanners are much shorter and wider than older models, but some people may find this experience claustrophobic. If you are worried about this, please discuss this with us before you arrive for your scan.

During the scan, the radiographer will be able to see you from the control room and you can talk to each other through an intercom. You will be given a call button to press and may be able to listen to music during the scan.

After your MRI

Scans can take between 20 minutes and an hour. If your scan is going to take longer you will be told this when your appointment is made. You may get dressed and leave as soon as your scan is finished. Before leaving the Imaging Department you can collect a CD containing your examination images to take away.

There is no aftercare needed once the scan is complete. All instructions will be on your appointment letter – please read it carefully.

Reporting results

All of our imaging procedures are reported by a consultant radiologist on the day of your examination. Fortius offers the latest picture archiving communications system (PACS), which enables radiologists and your consultant to have immediate access to all your images, onsite and offsite. All patient information is protected and stored using the strictest security measures.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointments can be made via a dedicated email, phone and fax number. We have an imaging administration team to assist with any queries.

t: +44 (0) 203 195 2446

f: +44 (0) 203 070 0152

e: imaging@fortiusclinic.com
www.fortiusclinic.com

Post injection advice:

Please contact our nursing team for any post-injection advice or questions.

t: +44 (0) 203 195 2442

e: nursing@fortiusclinic.com

Hours: Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm

If you require urgent medical attention or advice out of clinic hours, please visit your local A&E.

How to find us in central London:

Fortius Clinic is situated close to Selfridges, and just off Manchester Square.

17 Fitzhardinge Street
London
W1H 6EQ

How to find us in the City:

Fortius Clinic is situated on King William Street, between Monument and Bank stations.

75 King William Street
London
EC4 7BE

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI)



WHAT TO EXPECT BEFORE, DURING
AND AFTER YOUR MRI SCAN



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fortiusclinic

ABOUT MRI

MRI is a medical imaging technique used in radiology to investigate the anatomy and function of the body.

MRI uses strong magnetic fields to deliver excellent soft tissue visualisation, enabling us to make accurate diagnosis of musculoskeletal complaints. The technique is widely used in hospitals for medical diagnosis, staging of disease and for follow-up without exposure to ionising radiation.

Our state of the art 1.5T and 3T scanners can perform a wide range of examinations, allowing us to undertake a full selection of musculoskeletal imaging and to adapt any scan to a patient's specific needs. Used with the precisely defined procedures developed by the radiology team, it ensures that high quality images are produced at all times.

We are also able to offer an MR arthrogram service to all our patients, injecting under image guidance and performing specific MR arthrogram sequences post injection.

Most scans can be performed by a radiologist on the same day as your appointment and he or she will prepare a report for your consultant within 24 hours.

Do I need to be referred for an MRI?

You will need to be referred by a medical practitioner to book an MRI appointment.

Am I suitable for an MRI scan?

Not everyone is suitable for an MRI scan and it is important that you let us know if you have the following risk factors.

- Cardiac pacemaker
- Heart valves
- Cochlear implant
- Surgery involving metal implants in the last six weeks
- Pregnancy or possibility of pregnancy
- Weight in excess of 200 KG
- Injuries involving metallic fragments in the eyes
- Gunshot or shrapnel injuries
- Stents

Are there any side effects/ risks from an MRI?

There are no known side effects from MRI scanning. However, we are cautious when scanning pregnant women and we do not scan anyone in their first trimester. Please inform your referring consultant or your radiographer if you believe you may be pregnant.

THE PROCESS

Before your MRI

It's important that you arrive 15 minutes before your scan, so that there is sufficient time to complete the screening process and to make sure it is safe to do your scan. If you cannot get to your appointment on time you should call as soon as possible. This will allow us to try and switch your time with someone else. We will attempt to provide you with an alternate slot the same day, if there is one available.

When you arrive for your imaging appointment, our radiographers will ask you some questions. You will also be required to fill in a questionnaire about your health and medical history, and you may be asked to sign a consent form. If necessary the radiographers will ask you to get into a patient gown.

You may eat and drink normally before the scan.

During your MRI

The scan is not painful but you will have to lie still for up to 20 minutes on a relatively hard surface. The radiographers will do their best to make you comfortable. If you have any pain or discomfort that could lead to difficulties with the scan, please tell the radiographer before your scan. It is important that you keep as still as possible whilst the scan is taking place.

During the scan, you will hear a variety of loud noises which are made by magnetic coils that switch on and off during the scan. These coils measure the signal coming from your body in order to create the images. We provide patients with ear defenders that help reduce this noise.

