

Division of Imaging

Information for Patients

Small Bowel Magnetic Resonance (MR)

What is an MR scan?

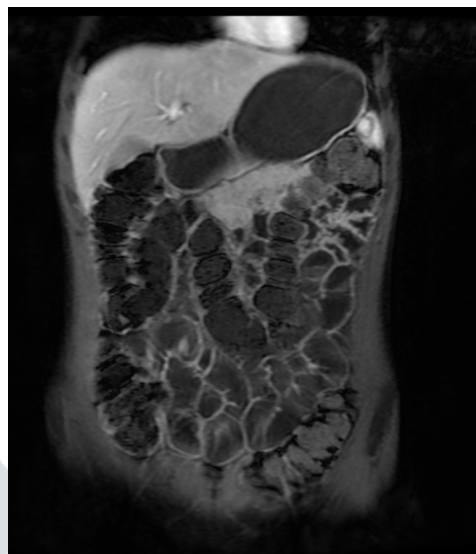
MR stands for Magnetic Resonance imaging.

It is a painless medical scan of your body, which uses a large magnetic field and radio waves to produce a picture. A special piece of equipment (antenna) is placed next to your body, to receive the small signals produced by your body, to make the images that doctors can use to diagnose you.

MR uses non-ionising radiation and is considered safe for most patients.

Please note, you may be asked to attend the hospital before your appointment in order to have up to date blood tests. We will let you know if this is required, please refer to your appointment letter.

Small Bowel MR



Small Bowel MR Scan Image

A small bowel MR is a special test to look at a part of your bowel without using X-rays. Instead, we use an MR scanner and a special drink to highlight your small bowel.

You will be asked to drink this liquid 30 minutes before you are scanned. **You will be in the department for 1½ to 2 hours.**

If you are unable to tolerate the drink/procedure, you will be referred back to the doctor who asked for the test. Alternative tests may be considered.

What happens during Small Bowel MR scan?

A trained specialist called a radiographer will perform your Small Bowel MR scan.

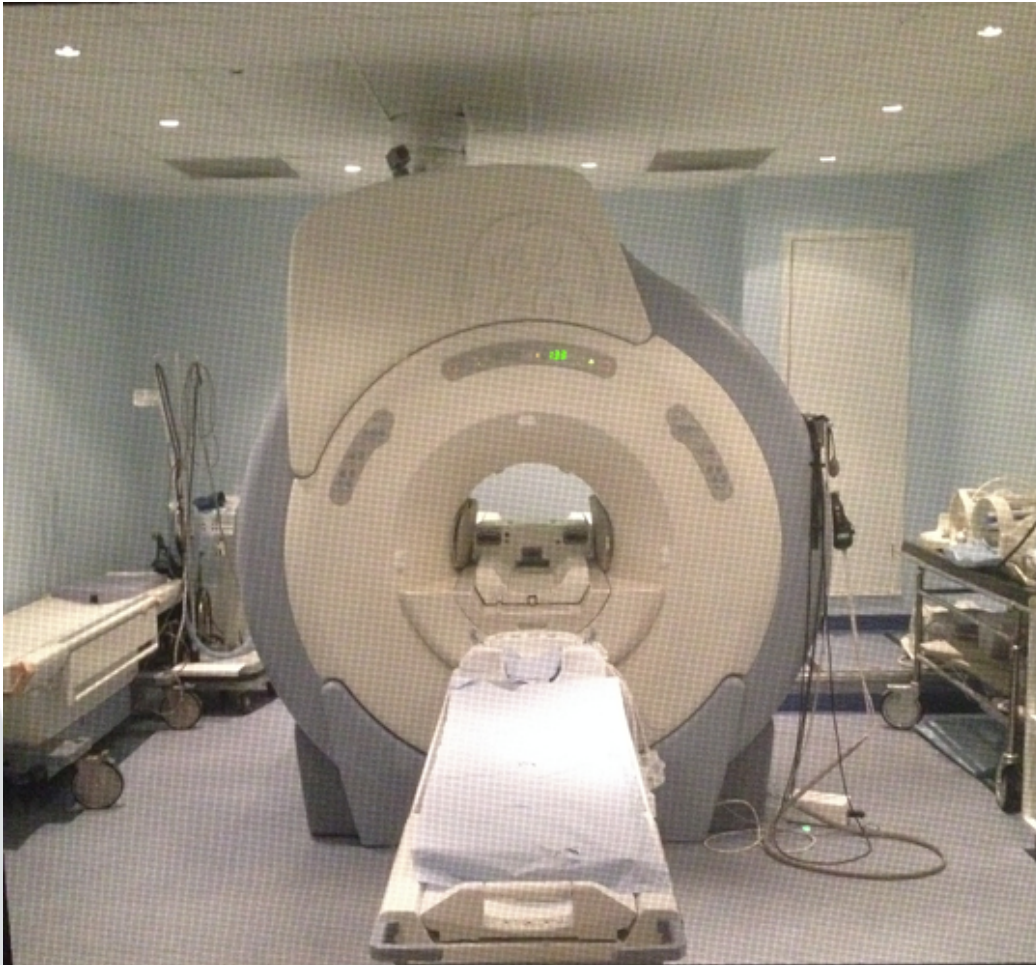
After reporting to reception, you will be greeted by a member of staff. You will be asked to change into a gown and remove any jewellery, watch or any other metallic objects from your body. If you prefer, you can bring your own pyjamas or loose-fitting non-metallic clothing (such as a T-shirt and jogging bottoms/shorts). To save any delay and to ensure your belongings are safe, it is advised that you try to remove any jewellery before attending and leave these at home.

You will then be given a special liquid to drink before your scan. It is important that you drink all of this fluid to ensure the test is successful.

During the scan you will also be given an injection of MR contrast and a muscle relaxant through a small injection/cannula in your arm.

During the scan you will have to lie flat within the scanner. This is a 1.5 metre tunnel which is open at both ends. If you suffer from claustrophobia, we can provide special glasses which will allow you to see out of the scanner or an eye mask.

Alternatively, you may require a light sedative, which can be obtained by you from your GP; you will need to bring this with you to take before the scan.



MR Scanner at Manchester Royal Infirmary

The scan is very noisy; you will be given some headphones or ear plugs to wear **to reduce the risk of damage to your hearing**. You can bring your own CD if you would like to listen to some music (please note this is not possible with some scans. The department staff will be able to advise you).

The staff performing your scan (radiographer) will monitor you during your scan. You will be provided with a buzzer which you can squeeze should you need assistance or feel unwell.

The radiographer will also speak to you through some special headphones with breathing instructions. Your scan will take 30 minutes.

Will I feel any pain?

You cannot feel anything from the MR scan itself, the procedure itself is painless.

However, it is important to get you into the correct position. Holding this position / lying on a table may, for some people, feel uncomfortable, but for the majority of patients this is not the case.

Are there any risks with this examination?

You will be asked numerous questions to ensure you are at low risk to any side effects from the drink, muscle relaxant and the dye we give you.

The special drink can have a mild laxative effect so you will be advised to drink plenty of fluids after the scan (water, juice, squash).

The muscle relaxant may make your eyesight blurred for a short time. It is important that you do not drive for around 30 minutes after your scan, to ensure your vision has returned to normal.

MR is considered to be safe. It does not use X-rays and is not associated with any increased risk of cancer.

Contrast risk

We might need to give you contrast dye to make areas of your body show up more clearly.

The radiographers will complete a checklist to ensure it is safe for you to have the dye and you will be asked to sign this form as a consent, the specific side effects are documented on the checklists that you complete.

The contrast dye that is sometimes used can cause allergic reactions however the staff available will be checking for any risks before we proceed.

Although MR uses a magnet, some metallic implants are safe to scan. Please contact the department if you have any so we can assess if it is safe for you to have the scan before you attend the department.

Extravasation risk

Contrast dyes (liquids) that are given to patients having an MR or CT scan are usually given by injection into a vein in your arm or hand. Occasionally the injection may leak out from your vein into the tissues under the skin – this is known as extravasation.

If this has happened, you may experience a stinging sensation where the contrast has gone into the tissue, and it can be painful. This will usually wear off after about 30 minutes.

Is there anything I need to inform you of before I attend for my appointment?

The scanner uses a powerful magnet. It is important that you complete the safety questionnaire before your appointment. On arrival a member of staff will review your safety questionnaire with you. Please ensure you have read and understood it fully, in order to avoid any unnecessary delays.

It is important that you can answer any safety questions staff may have in the department. If you require an interpreter or have any communication difficulties, please contact the department before your appointment, as we are unable to allow family members or friends to interpret for you.

If you answer 'Yes' to any of the questions, please contact the department before the scan date. We may require further information so that we can scan you safely.

If you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant, please contact the department.

How do I prepare for my Small Bowel MR scan?

Please do not eat anything **for 4 hours** before your scan. You can drink normally.

Clothes and accessories:

There are some clothes that can affect the quality of the scan and you may be asked to remove them and wear a hospital gown.

If you do not wish to change into a hospital gown then please do not wear clothing with zips, metal, buttons on that are made from thick material.

You may also be asked to remove jewellery, dentures, glasses and any metal objects or clothing that might interfere with the images.

Help and support in the department

If you have any medical problem which you feel may affect your safety in the department, or if you feel you may need any assistance, please let us know when you arrive.

Do I need to give my permission (consent)?

The radiographer will ask you if you are happy for the examination to go ahead. This is called verbal consent and might only involve the radiographer checking you are booked for the correct examination.

If you do not wish to have the examination or are undecided, please ask the radiographer so that they can answer any questions you may have.

Remember, it is your decision. You can change your mind at any time and your wishes will be respected.

However, not having the examination may delay your diagnosis as the referring clinician may not have all the needed information.

How long will it take?

Usually, the examination takes around 30minutes. But please be prepared to stay in the department for 1½ to 2 hours to allow for preparations and for us to monitor you after the scan has finished.

The images are recorded and the radiographer (member of the radiology team trained to carry out this examination) will check them briefly to make sure that they can be used to make a diagnosis.

When it is completed, you will be allowed to leave the examination room.

The radiographer will usually not be able to give you any idea of the results at that time.

What happens after a Small Bowel MR Scan?

The radiographer may ask you to wait in the department while they check that no more images are needed.

As soon as the radiographer is satisfied that no more images/scans are needed, you will be free to leave the department.

If you have had a contrast dye injection, we may ask for you to wait for 10minutes before you leave the department. This is to make sure that you are feeling ok and there is no sign of any allergic reaction to the dye you have been given.

You can eat and drink as normal and get back to your usual activities straight after the scan.

When will I get my results?

Specialist doctors will look at your scan and a report will be made available to the doctor who requested the scan. This can take time, but we will send the results to your doctor as soon as possible.

You may already have an appointment with the clinician who referred you. If not, please contact them to arrange a time to talk about the results and any treatment you may need.

If you are staying in hospital, the results will be given to the doctors looking after you on the ward.

What should I do if I have a problem?

You should not have any problems that is a result of the Small Bowel MR Scan.

If you feel your condition has changed, or you need further medical advice before receiving your results/after leaving the hospital, please make an appointment with the doctor that referred you, or in an emergency, go to your nearest Emergency Department (ED).

How can I provide feedback for the appointment I have attended today?

The Division of Imaging welcomes feedback from all our patients. We actively take part in the Friends and Family Test, and we complete a patient experience questionnaire every month to obtain feedback on the experiences you have had. Please speak to a member of staff regarding the feedback or there are posters within the department with QR codes so you can complete these online.

Further Information

Videos of an MR scan can be seen at:

<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/mri/MM00395>

www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwXJNXNcLNs

<http://youtu.be/DZTXa4qerl4>

Having an MR scan at Manchester Royal Infirmary – please search for ‘CMFT MR’ on the YouTube webpage and select the ‘Having an MR scan at Manchester Royal Infirmary’ or alternatively please type in the link below to your web browser:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZS_B_n_XEWY&list=PLMLo0FsBVIPI6HMKXOnYJBFwNbmeZGIR1

Contact us

For contact information please refer to your appointment letter or if you are an inpatient, please direct your queries to one of the medical staff on the ward

Language and accessible support services:

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch.

Your comments and concerns

If you would like to provide feedback you can:

- Ask to speak to the department lead / manager.
- Write to us: Patient Advice and Liaison Services, 1st Floor, Cobbett House, Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9WL.
- Log onto the Patient Opinion website www.patientopinion.org.uk/ click on 'Tell your Story'

If you would like to discuss a concern or make a complaint:

Ask to speak to the department manager – they may be able to help straight away. Inpatients can speak to a senior nurse or manager by contacting the Tell Us Today service on (0161) 701 1999.

Contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on (0161) 276 8686 email: pals@mft.nhs.uk. Ask for our information leaflet.

We welcome your feedback so we can continue to improve our services.

NHS 111

This service offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day.

Telephone: 111, 24 hours a day

Website: www.111.nhs.uk

Finally

Some of your questions should have been answered by this leaflet but remember that this is only a starting point for discussion about your treatment with the doctors looking after you. Further information can be obtained by contacting the radiology department that is performing the procedure.