

Open to all

Spire Norwich Hospital is open to everyone, whether or not you're insured. If not, we ask you to pay on the same day by debit or credit card, cheque or cash. Contact us to find out the cost of an MRI scan.

If you are covered by private medical insurance, please contact your insurer in advance to ensure that your scan has been authorised and bring your insurance details with you.

Appointments and enquiries

To arrange an appointment you will need a referral from your GP or consultant. For all enquiries or to make an appointment call **01603 255 531**

Name

An appointment has been made for your MRI scan

On

At

If you cannot attend this appointment, please telephone **01603 255 531** to rearrange as soon as possible.



MRI scanning

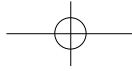
Speedy results from sophisticated scanning technology.



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www.spirehealthcare.com/norwich



What is an MRI scan?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) combines a powerful magnet with a sophisticated computer to produce pictures of any part of the body without the need for X-rays.

An MRI scan enables very clear pictures to be made of the soft tissue structures such as the brain, spinal cord and internal organs. The detail in these pictures is so good that the scanner can see even small abnormalities. This accuracy helps in the detection of disease and injury, allowing effective treatment to start as soon as possible.

MRI scans are used to give detailed information about bones and joints, the head and neck, and nearly every organ in the body, including blood vessels. The information is collected electronically over a short period of time, then translated into a series of images on a computer screen. These images can be made available to a specialist who can study them closely and report the findings to your GP or consultant.

Why should you have your scan at Spire Norwich Hospital?

Your procedure will be performed in the safety of a full hospital setting by an experienced radiographer, using up-to-date technology. Our highly trained staff will ensure that your visit is as comfortable as possible.

What does your MRI examination involve?

You will be asked to lie on a comfortable couch and moved into position for your scan. It is important for you to relax. The scan will normally take about 30 minutes, however more complex scans may take up to one hour. You will hear the noises of the scanner which is quite normal and nothing to worry about. You may bring a CD to listen to during your scan. The radiographer will be in contact with you throughout the examination and a friend or relative may sit with you if you wish.

What preparation will be required?

Unless you are told otherwise, no special preparation is needed for an MRI scan and patients may continue to eat and drink as normal and take prescribed medicines. To avoid any injury to yourself or damage to your belonging, you will be asked to remove any metallic objects such as your watch, any loose change, keys, credit cards, jewellery, mobile phone, spectacles, metallic dentures and hearing aids.

Suitability for an MRI scan

Please contact us before your scan if you have:

- a heart pacemaker
- surgical clips within your head
- metallic heart valves
- inner ear implants
- metal fragments within your head or eye
- neuro electrical stimulators
- body piercings
- had joint replacement surgery
- ever been a metal worker
- an intrauterine device, such as Copper-7 IUD
- permanent eye liner (tattoo)
- may be, or are, pregnant, or breastfeeding
- had a gunshot wound

Any metallic substance on your body can affect the quality of the diagnostic images. We need to know this for your own safety as it could cause discomfort or injury when you are placed in the magnetic field. In addition it could exclude you from the examination.

If you have ever had an accident where metal fragments may have entered into your eye or surrounding areas, you must inform the MRI staff before your appointment date. This will enable us to determine your suitability for a scan.

