

## MRI

*(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)*

### Introduction

The examination takes place in the Radiology department. MRI is a technique to obtain images of organs, muscles, blood vessels and other tissues in the human body. This uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves. This activates signals in the body. These signals are received by an antenna before being converted into images by a computer. This scan does not use X-rays. The scan is not harmful to the best of our knowledge. Except a (possible) injection with a contrast agent, the scan is painless.

### Important

People with magnetic or electronic aids such as a pacemaker, some vascular clips in the skull or internal hearing aid must **not** have an MRI scan.

People with metal objects in their body (artificial hip, vascular clips, screws and hip pins), are urgently requested to report this before the scan.

### Preparation

Objects such as watches, keys, lighters, hearing aids, hair pins and other metal objects are not permitted in the MRI room. This also includes credit cards and bank cards. Please do not use any make up, hairspray or gel.

For an MRI scan you can eat and drink as normal and take your medication as usual, unless you are having a special MRI scan, for example for the small intestine or bile ducts, and then special preparation is required. In that case, you

will receive more information along with this leaflet.

### Examination procedure

During the examination, you lie on an examination table. This table is then slid into a lit tunnel, which is open in front and behind. The opening of the tunnel is relatively small. You can stay in contact with the lab technician the whole time via a microphone.

Once you are in the tunnel, a series of scans are made, and the machine will make loud ticking and/or humming noises. You can listen to music during the scan. You can bring your own CD with you. During the examination, you must try to lie as still as possible.

For some examinations, it is necessary to use a contrast agent. This is injected into a vein in your arm, allowing the contrast agent to spread throughout your whole body.

### Duration

The scan will take between 15 and 45 minutes, depending on the area being examined. An MRI of your heart can take up to 90 minutes.

### Important information

If you are pregnant or think you might be, please let the lab technician know before the scan.

### The results

Your treating doctor, who requested the scan, will inform you of the results.

**Notes on this leaflet**

If any information in this leaflet is unclear or incomplete, please notify us. You can share your remarks with us via [voorlichting@zha.nl](mailto:voorlichting@zha.nl).