MRI enterography

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET MR10

Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more clinic details.

Duration of examination

You will be in our department for 90 minutes. The MRI examination takes 30 minutes.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- Medicare and any
- Healthcare cards

Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

bensonradiology.com.au

What is an MRI scan?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is an imaging method that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of different parts of the body. MRI does not involve exposure to ionising radiation (X-rays).

Purpose of the examination

On An MRI enterography is performed to evaluate the small bowel to diagnose or monitor gastrointestinal pathology using high-resolution, soft-tissue imaging.

An MRI enterography may be recommended to:

- assess the small bowel for inflammation, bleeding, obstructions and other pathology
- evaluate the presence of and complications from Chron's disease
- assess when there is a change in Chron's disease treatment
- assess for tumours and abscess

Patient preparation

Please do not eat for four (4) hours before your appointment. You may continue to drink clear fluids.

Pre-scan procedure

On arrival for your appointment, you will be asked to complete an MRI safety questionnaire as well as an enterogram related questionnaire. If you prefer, you may complete the safety questionnaire online before your appointment via bensonradiology.com.au/mrisafety

You will be asked to drink 1 litre of water mixed with a mild laxative (sorbitol) over approximately one (1) hour prior to the examination. This helps fill and distend the small bowel so it can be clearly visualised on change room during the examination.

What will happen during the examination?

An MRI enterography requires an injection of a contrast agent called Gadolinium and a muscle relaxant (Buscopan). The muscle relaxant helps reduce movement of the small bowel for approximately 15 minutes, allowing high resolution images of the small bowel to be captured. These medications are administered through an intravenous (IV) cannula inserted into your arm.

Once the cannula is in place, the radiographer position coils over your abdomen and pelvis. These coils work with the MRI system to obtain detailed images.

The MRI scanner produces loud noises during scanning. You will be provided with headphones, and additional hearing protection such as earplugs are available on request. You will also be given a call buzzer, which you can press at any time to alert the MRI radiographer if you need assistance.

Other considerations

Sorbitol is a mild laxative, which can cause abdominal cramping or diarrhoea. These effects may last for several hours, particularly once the short-term effects of the muscle relaxant wear off. It is important to have access to a toilet for the remainder of the day.

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After the examination

The images will be reviewed and reported by our radiologist. These will then be sent to your referring clinician. For details on reporting timeframes, please speak with our reception staff. It is important that you follow up the results of your examination with your referring clinician.

It is important you understand why and how we will be assisting you. If you have any questions, please call one of our clinics or speak to our staff on the day of your visit.

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