Bladder MRI

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET MR25

Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more clinic details.

Duration of examination

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?

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

An MRI of the bladder is performed to evaluate bladder pathology using high-resolution, soft-tissue imaging. This examination provides detailed information about the bladder wall, surround tissues and nearby organs.

A bladder MRI may be recommended to:

- assess the bladder wall, particularly following abnormal urine test results or ultrasound findings
- evaluate the size, location and extent of bladder lesions or tumours to assist with treatment planning
- identify recurrence of disease following treatment
- assess for possible spread to surrounding organs, lymph nodes or other tissue.

Patient preparation

Bladder MRI image quality is highly dependent on the bladder being moderately filled at the time of scanning.

To help achieve this, please follow the following instructions:

- empty your bladder two (2) hours before your scheduled scan time
- in the 60 minutes prior to your appointment, drink 500–1000 mL of water to fill the bladder adequately.

Before formal imaging begins, our MRI staff will perform a series of quick localiser images to assess bladder filling.

Based on these you may be asked to:

- proceed directly to the scan
- drink additional water and wait for further bladder filling
- use the bathroom to partially empty your bladder

Please consume no food or drink other than water for four (4) hours prior to your examination.

Pre-scan procedure

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

Due to the strong magnetic fields used in MRI, you will be asked to change into a gown and remove your watch. Underwear and socks may be worn. All valuables will be securely stored in your private change room during the examination.

What will happen during the examination?

The MRI radiographer will position you on the MRI table, lying on your back.

A bladder MRI requires the use of a muscle relaxant (Buscopan) medication. The muscle relaxant helps reduce movement of the small bowel for approximately 15 minutes, allowing high resolution images of the bladder to be captured. These medications are administered through an intravenous (IV) cannula inserted into your arm.

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Please turn

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Once the cannula is in place, the radiographer position coils over your 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.

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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