# **MRI** general information



### **Patient Information**

## Radiology Department – Wellington Hospital

It is important that you <u>read and complete the</u> <u>safety questionnaire</u> attached to this appointment letter

Please notify us as soon as possible on (04) 806 2193 if you:

- Are pregnant
- Require an interpreter
- Have a pacemaker, vascular stent or graft, aneurysm clip or cochlear implant
- Are claustrophobic and think you may require sedation

If you do not inform us of the above before arriving for your appointment, we may end up cancelling your scan on the day

#### What is an MRI scan?

• An MRI scan is an examination which uses a large magnet and radio-frequency waves to produce detailed cross-sectional images of a specific area of your body. MRI does not involve radiation

• Because of the large magnet you will need to fill out a safety check list to make sure it is safe for you to enter the MRI scanner

• A Medical Radiation technologist (MRT), who is an expert in the use of the MRI scanner, will go through the checklist, explain the procedure to you and answer questions you may have

• Before entering the scanning room you will be asked to remove all metallic jewellery and everything from your pockets. You will be provided with somewhere to place your items however, it is best to leave valuable items at home

- You will be required to lie down on the scanning table and then moved into the scanner which is a short tunnel, open and both ends. You will be required to remain still for the entire examination
- It will be very noisy while the scans are being taken. You will be provided with either earplugs or head phones with music to listen to
- There is an intercom system in the scanner and the MRT will be able to talk to you and tell you what is happening throughout the scan

#### Afterwards

There are no side effects. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to ask the MRT

#### What about the results?

• The Radiologist will study your films and have a report sent to your referring doctor.

• We realize that you may be apprehensive about this examination and we hope this information is helpful

#### Any questions relating to your MRI scan:

**Contact us Phone:** (04) 806 2193

Hours: 8:30 am - 5pm, Monday to Friday

Fax: (04) 806 0301

**Email:** radiology.admin@ccdhb.org.nz

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