

## Common Research Procedures: MRI Scans

## What is Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a common procedure. During an MRI you will lie on a table that slides into a small tunnel-shaped machine. An MRI scanner does not use any radiation but instead uses powerful magnets, radio waves and computer analysis to create detailed pictures of the inside of your body. MRI scans can give important information about your brain or other organs and tissues.

## Questions to ask:

1. Is this MRI being done specifically for the research study or is it also part of my regular medical care?
2. Where will I go for my MRI?
3. How many scans will be needed?
4. Do I need to do anything special to prepare for the scan?
5. Will I need to do anything during the scan?
6. Who will review my scans? Will a medical doctor review my MRI?
7. What happens if the MRI scan reveals a medical issue?
8. Will I receive the results of the scan?
9. How will my privacy be protected?
10. What happens if I decide to leave the study early?



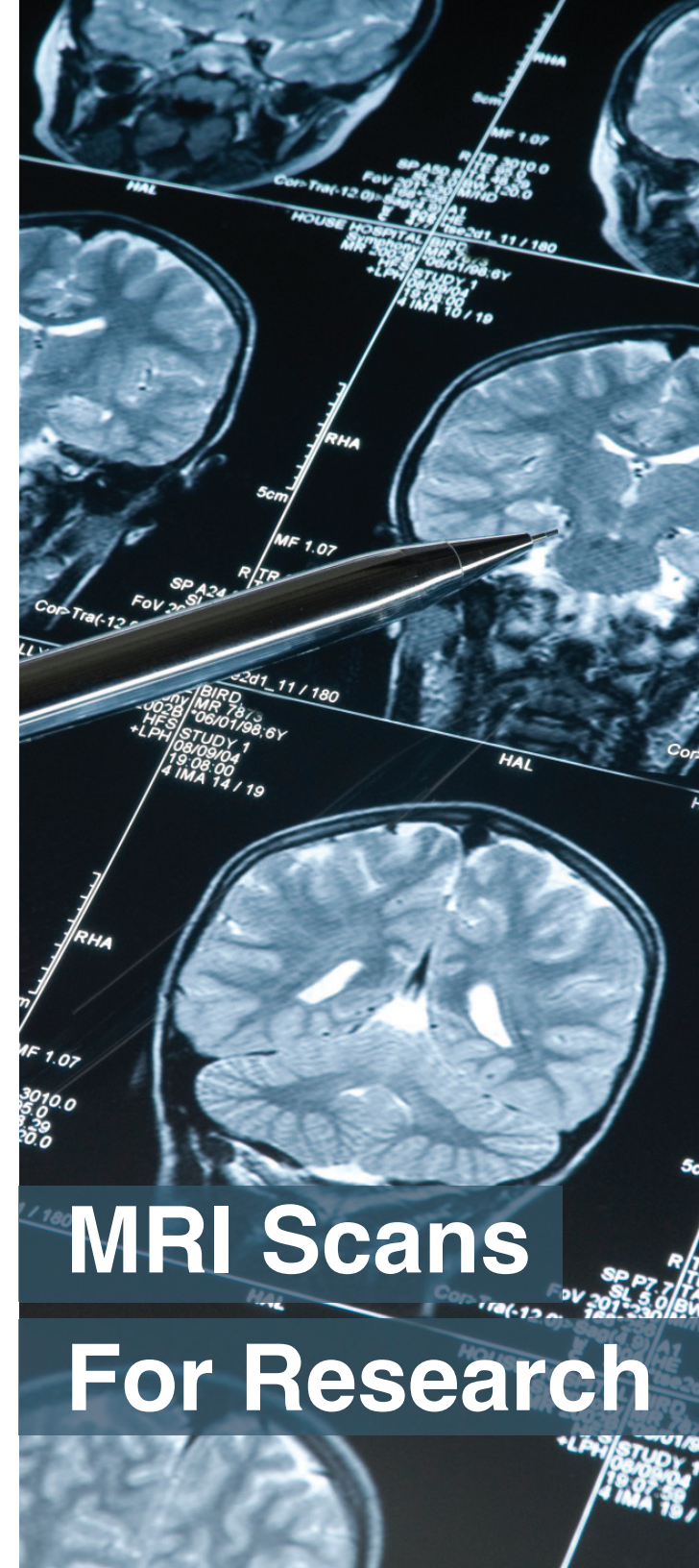
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**More questions?**  
**Call:**

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# MRI Scans For Research

*This brochure contains general information for educational purposes and is not intended to provide medical advice. Talk with your doctor or research team before acting on any information contained herein for advice specific to your situation.*





Participating in research is your choice.  
Be informed. Ask questions. Get answers.

## How should I prepare for an MRI?

Talk with the research staff so that you understand how to prepare for the MRI. When an MRI is part of a research study, additional steps may be needed. The research team will go over this information with you. Make sure you understand what to expect before, during and after the scan.

## What are the risks of undergoing an MRI scan?

MRIs are considered to be safe and painless. There are no known major risks with an MRI scan. Specific risks will be described in detail in the Informed Consent Form. Make sure you understand those risks as they relate to the MRI as well as to the overall research.

## What's different about a MRI scan used for research?

If you have an MRI as part of your regular medical care, your doctor is usually trying to check your health or diagnose a problem. When an MRI scan is part of a research study, the scan is used to help answer a scientific question. It is not intended to provide you with medical care or detect health problems.

Unlike a standard MRI where you and your doctor would discuss the results, the research team might not share the results of the MRI with you. Your scans might be reviewed as part of a larger group of scans and not looked at individually. A medical doctor may not review your scans at all.

## Participating in research is a choice

Protections are in place to help assure the safety of research volunteers (also called “research subjects”) and ensure volunteers are treated with respect. The research team will go over an Informed Consent Form with you. They will explain the study’s goals and possible risks and benefits. Ask for help if you don’t understand something. You should never feel rushed or pressured. Being part of a research study is completely voluntary – it’s your choice. You can change your mind, at any time, for any reason.

