

Orthopaedic MRI Scans

What to expect when being asked to attend for an MRI scan appointment under the care of the Orthopaedic Team:

- You have been asked to return to the Surgical Assessment Unit (SAU) waiting area which is located on level 2 in the Richard Ticehurst Surgical Assessment Unit (RTSAU) for 8am.
- The time of your MRI appointment will not necessarily be the time you have been asked to arrive at the hospital as the MRI department is very busy.
- The MRI itself will not take long however, once the scan has been performed, we will ask you to take a seat in our waiting area.
- The MRI scan then needs to be reported on and the Neurosurgery Team will advise us as to the outcome – this is the time-consuming part. Neurosurgery are the experts on backpain so we take their advice on all our Spine MRI's.
- Due to the length of time you may be waiting, it is important to bring items to make you as comfortable as possible within this time including:
 - Adequate pain relief for the day
 - Wear something you will be comfortable in for a long period of time
 - Bring some food and drink or some money for the shop
 - Something to read or listen to and a charger for your phone
 - A pillow or cushion that can help support your back if this is a comfort

We will do our utmost to keep you informed and give you information as soon as possible. We appreciate your understanding and will be happy to answer any questions you may have, just speak to the nurse looking after you

Sources of information

Specialist Nurse, SAU, Head of Nursing Division of Surgery, Trauma and Orthopaedic Team

Important information

This patient information is for guidance purposes only and is not provided to replace professional clinical advice from a qualified practitioner.

Your comments

We are always interested to hear your views about our leaflets. If you have any comments, please contact the patient experience team on 0300 131 4784 or esh-tr.patientexperience@nhs.net.

Hand hygiene

We are committed to maintaining a clean, safe environment. Hand hygiene is very important in controlling infection. Alcohol gel is widely available at the patient bedside for staff use and at the entrance of each clinical area for visitors to clean their hands before and after entering.

Other formats

If you require any of our leaflets in alternative formats, such as large print or alternative languages, please contact the Equality and Human Rights Department on 0300 131 4434 or esh-tr.AccessibleInformation@nhs.net

After reading this information are there any questions you would like to ask? Please list below and ask your nurse or doctor.

Reference

The following clinicians have been consulted and agreed this patient information:
Jacinta Isles (Head of Nursing Division of Surgery), Eleanor Hitchen (Trauma Coordinator), Sarah Davey (Trauma Coordinator)

The Clinical Specialty/Unit that have agreed this patient information leaflet:
Department of Surgery

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Responsible clinician/author: Sarah Davey and Eleanor Hitchen (Trauma Coordinators)

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