

What is MRI?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses strong magnets, radio waves (similar to those of ordinary FM radio stations), and the water in your own body to take images without any radiation. This imaging technique generates high quality and very detailed images, which can guide any treatment that you may require.

Important Information

Due to MRI's strong magnetic field, it may not be safe if you currently have or have previously had the following:

- Pacemaker or defibrillator
- Implanted electronic device
- Cochlear implant or other inner ear implant
- Artery/vein clip, coil/vascular graft, or aneurysm clip
- Metallic foreign body to eye from injury. Please discuss with your doctor if any of the above applies to you.

GP Referrals qualify for Medicare Rebate for certain criteria

Patients 16 years and older

MRI BRAIN for any of the following:

- Unexplained seizure(s)
- Unexplained chronic headache with suspected intracranial pathology

MRI CERVICAL SPINE for suspected:

- Cervical radiculopathy
- Cervical spine trauma

MRI KNEE with:

- Inability to extend the knee suggesting possibility of acute meniscal tear
- Clinical findings suggesting acute anterior cruciate ligament tear
- **MEDICARE no longer covers MRI of the knee for patients over 50 years old**

Children under 16 years of age

MRI BRAIN

- Unexplained seizure(s)
- Unexplained headache where significant pathology is suspected
- Paranasal sinus pathology which has not responded to conservative therapy

MRI SPINE — After general x-ray of any of the following:

- Significant trauma
- Unexplained neck or back pain with associated neurological signs
- Unexplained back pain where significant pathology is suspected

MRI KNEE — no longer needs a x-ray of the knee before the MRI to be eligible for bulk billing:

- Internal joint derangement

MRI HIP — After general x-ray of any of the following:

- Suspected septic arthritis
- Suspected slipped capital femoral epiphysis
- Suspected Perthes disease

MRI ELBOW — After general x-ray where: Significant fracture or avulsion injury is suspected that will change management

MRI WRIST — After general x-ray where: Scaphoid fracture is suspected

