E R E T E N I A N U R S I N G H O M E
36100 VICENZA, ITALY – VIALE ERETENIO, 12 – TEL. +39 (0)444/994511 – FAX +39 (0)444/543644
IMAGING DIAGNOSTICS

INFORMATION NOTES ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MRI EXAMINATION

Dear Patient, Your doctor submitted a request for an MRI examination for you. We would like to provide you with some information about the performance of this examination and its possible complications which, despite all precautions, might take place.

MRI is an examination performed by means of Computerised Equipment, based on the use of a magnetic field (1.5T).

The examination may be performed with or without intravenous administration of the paramagnetic contrast agent, depending on the clinical issue. The Contrast Agent will be injected by means of a cannula needle with an automatic injector or manually. The quantity changes depending on the method, diagnostic investigation, body district to examine and the patient's body weight.

If a contrast agent is used, it is necessary to have been fasting for at least 6 hours. Routine drugs can be taken regularly, with some water. It is advisable to hydrate your body considerably (at least 1.5 l of water) the day before and the day after the examination.

For breast-feeding women, it is advisable, as a precaution, to stop breast feeding for the 24 hours following the administration of the contrast agent.

After the examination, the patient does not have to follow a precise regime or precise prescriptions, and may re-start his/her normal activities immediately.

On the day of the examination, the patient must go to the Radiology Service reception (Nursing Home Hall) with all his/her clinical documentation about the pathology in question, including the images of previous radiological examinations (X-ray, CT, MRI, bone scans, etc. and specialists' letters).

Patients will be told the number of the waiting room where they will have to wait until they are called to undergo the examination.
Before performing the examination, the patient will have to take off all metal objects, including watches, electronic devices, magnetic cards.
It should be born in mind that on the day of the examination, Patients should not use cosmetics.
The technician will show the patient where he/she has to take off his/her clothes (except for underwear, which should be made of cotton). After wearing a suitable coat, the patient will be placed on a sliding bed.
Depending on the diagnostic issue, superficial reels may be applied on the body district to examine.
In order to soften the background noise of the equipment, an isolating headset will be used.
To report any problems, the patient may call the Technician by means of a suitable trumpet that he/she will hold in his/her hand.
The patiently will be constantly monitored by means of a video camera.
The examination generally lasts between 30 and 45 minutes. During the examination, the patient must remain still.

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Imaging diagnostic service

Reservations RX, TAC, RM, ECO: +39 (0)444/994562

REFERRAL FOR A MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING EXAMINATION

USER'S DATA	***GENERAL PRACTITIONER***
Surname _____	_____
First name _____	***DISTRICT TO EXAMINE***_____
Date of birth	

CLINICAL SUSPICIONS _____

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING INFORMED CONSENT

MRI is an examination performed by means of Computerised Equipment, based on the use of a magnetic field (1.5T). The examination may be performed with or without intravenous administration of the paramagnetic contrast agent, depending on the clinical issue. The Contrast Agent will be injected by means of a cannula needle with an automatic injector or manually. ***If a contrast agent is used, it is necessary to have been fasting for at least 6 hours.*** Routine drugs can be taken regularly, with some water. It is advisable to hydrate your body considerably (at least 1.5 l of water) the day before and the day after the examination. During the intravenous infusion with the contrast agent, for anatomic reasons, vein fragility, etc., a blood vessel may even break, resulting in leakage in the injection area; in this case, a local therapy may be applied.

During and after the administration of the Contrast Agent, undesired effects may take place. Depending on their severity, these reactions may be:

- **Slight:** nausea, vomit, pain in the injection site, hives, wheals
- **Moderate:** dyspnea, hypotension-hypertension, tachycardia-bradycardia, collapse, vasovagal syncope
- **Serious:** pulmonary or glottis oedema, anaphylactic shock, severe bronchospasm, cardiorespiratory block, serious arrhythmias, acute kidney failure. In these rare cases our service has suitable drugs and equipment to take care of the patient and, if necessary, the reanimation operators are readily available.

Late reactions (from 1 hour to 7 days post-injection) are most frequently skin rashes, influenza-like syndromes, gastrointestinal disorders. In this case, it is advisable to seek medical advice.

- Patients bearing the following should ***absolutely be excluded*** from the MRI examination:

Cardiac pacemaker	YES	NO
Intraocular metal splinters	YES	NO

- Patients with the following conditions ***will be carefully considered*** (assessing, each single time, ***compatibility with the implantation date and type)*** :

Cardiac valves	YES	NO
Vascular metal clips, aortic-coronary bypasses, results on surgery for intracranial aneurysms, etc.	YES	NO
Insulin pumps	YES	NO
Orthopaedic metal prostheses	YES	NO
Intraocular lens prostheses	YES	NO
Non-vascular metal clips	YES	NO

Note: *the prosthesis implantation documentation issued by the specialist who performed the surgical operation may be required.*

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The patient declares:

- ***Not suffering from claustrophobia*** _____
- ***Not having undergone surgical operations like*** _____
- ***Having worked in places where metal splinters could be found, for instance*** _____
- ***Having suffered accidents with penetration of metal fragments, in the following areas*** _____

Women patients also declare:

- ***Being pregnant (specify the week)*** _____
- ***Having had the last menstruation on*** _____
- ***Carrying intrauterine devices*** _____

Note: In case of ascertained or suspected pregnancy, the examination will only be performed after a direct agreement has been reached by the General Practitioner and the Radiologist.

CLINICAL HISTORY EVALUATION (reserved to the general practitioner)

- Liver failure (serum bilirubin < 2.5 mg %) report the value _____
- Azotemia (< 50 mg %) report the value _____
- Severe kidney failure (serum bilirubin < 1.5 mg %) report the value _____

WARNINGS

Should it be necessary to administer the paramagnetic contrast agent intravenously, in any case taking into consideration the general hypersensitivity risks typical of every solution for injections, it should be borne in mind that there have been reports of cases of nephrogenic systemic fibrosis (NSF) correlated with the use of contrast agents containing Gadolinium in patients with serious kidney problems, in babies under the age of 4 weeks and in patients with a liver transplantation or for whom liver transplantation is expected. In order to minimise the risk of NSF, the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMEA) and the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) recommend that all patients who will receive these products undergo laboratory examinations in order to ascertain the absence of serious kidney diseases.

I, the undersigned, Mr./Ms. _____ born on _____

in _____ hereby declare having been thoroughly informed

about the goals, performance and risks relative to the examination with organ-iodine contrast medium by injection and **I authorise/do not authorise** the performance of the investigation required by my General Practitioner.

Patient's full signature

Vicenza, on _____ _____

General Practitioner's signature

_____

Radiologist's signature

_____