



## Your MRI scan

# InHealth relocatable scanner

### Information for patients

#### What is an MRI scan?

MRI stands for magnetic resonance imaging. This uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to create pictures, on a computer, of tissues, organs and other structures inside your body without the need for potentially harmful X-rays.

#### Are there any risks?

There are no known harmful side effects from exposure to the levels of magnetic field and radio signal used in our scanner.

#### Safety checklist

There are certain medical and physical conditions that prevent the use of MRI. Because of this you **must read and complete** the enclosed MRI patient safety checklist and then bring it with you on the day of your scan.

**If you answered yes to any of the safety questions, please contact us as soon as possible on 01737 231 712 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 4:30pm).**

#### Is there any preparation?

Due to the strong magnetic field, metal and magnetic items cannot be taken into the scan room. You will need to remove watches and jewellery – including body piercings – and leave phones, music players, credit cards and other metal items outside the scan room. Lockers are provided, but we asked that you leave your valuables at home.

If you wear contact lenses, we may ask that you remove them. We also recommend that you do not wear eye make-up as this can affect the quality of some scans.

For some scans you may be asked to change into a gown.

**Please follow carefully any other preparation instructions given in your appointment letter.**

### **What does it involve?**

The radiographer will show you to the equipment and explain the scan.

All you need to do is lie still and relax. You will be aware of very loud drumming noises from the scanner. We will give you ear protection to help reduce the noise. The staff can see and hear you and you will be able to contact them if you become uncomfortable.

### **What if I am claustrophobic?**

It may be possible for a friend or relative to be with you during your scan. Please mention this when you first arrive for your appointment and discuss with the radiographer.

### **How long will it take?**

The length of the scan varies depending on your individual needs. Most scans last between 20 and 50 minutes. Extra time is needed for administration and changing but there is no need to arrive early for your appointment unless we advise you to.

### **Will I have an injection?**

For some examinations a small injection into a vein on your hand or arm may be needed. This improves the quality of the images in certain areas. If you require an injection, we will explain the procedure beforehand.

Injections carry a very small risk of allergic reaction and as a precaution we advise that you stay with us for 15 minutes after your scan.

### **When do I find out the results?**

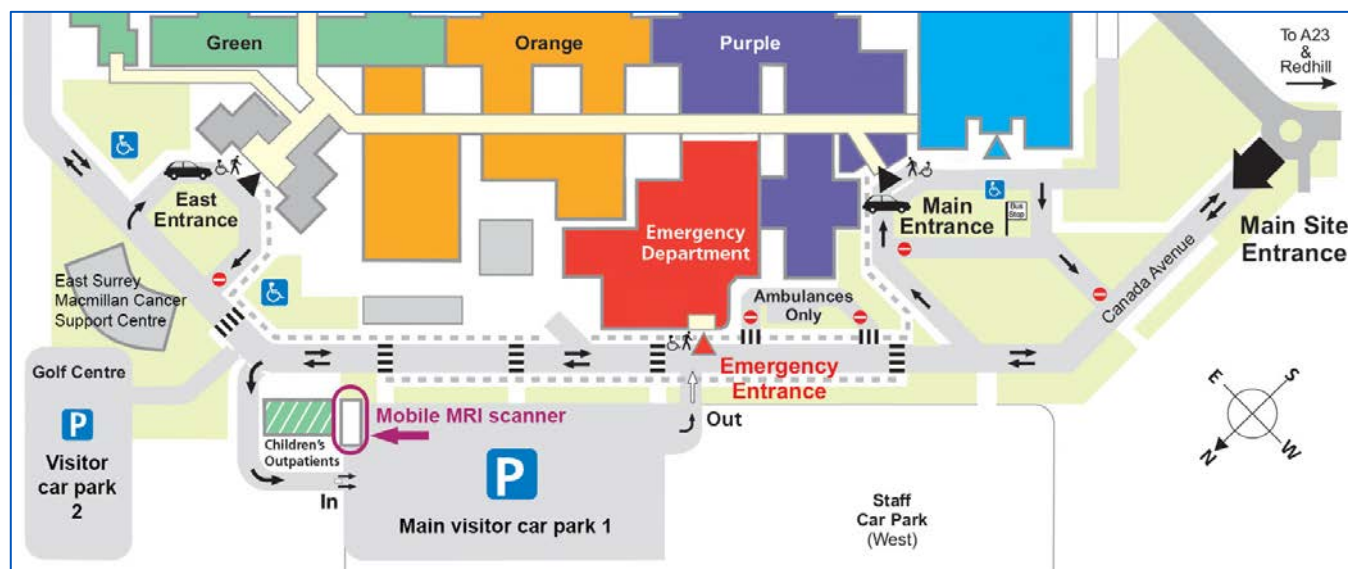
Your scan will be reviewed and reported by an appropriate specialist. This report will be sent to the person who asked for your examination and they will discuss it with you at your next appointment.

### **How do I find out more?**

If you have more questions about your scan, just call us between 9:30am and 12pm, Monday to Friday, on the number shown on your appointment letter.

## How to find us

Your scan will be on the **mobile MRI scanner** which is located near the East Entrance of East Surrey Hospital. The unit is located in between the main visitor car park and the children's outpatients building.



The scanner unit is white with blue trim and is marked with the logo 'InHealth'. The entrance is the single door closest to the road.



There is a short flight of low steps; if this may cause a problem for you please let us know before your appointment by calling 01737 231 721.

**Due to severe space limitations we respectfully ask that only one person accompanies you. There are no childcare or washroom facilities on board.**

## Getting here

### Journey planning

A free web-based journey planning service that includes public transport and car travel can be found at [www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk)

You can also telephone Travel Line to plan your journey on 0871 200 2233 (calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, more from mobile networks).

More travel-related information can be found on our website [www.sash.nhs.uk/finding-us](http://www.sash.nhs.uk/finding-us)

### Public transport

The hospital is on a number of bus routes and is only a short bus or taxi journey away from Redhill rail station.

### Car parking

On-site car parking is available and pay machines are located in the Main and East Entrances, and Emergency reception.

**Disabled parking** bays in the car parks closest to the hospital entrances are reserved for vehicles displaying a valid blue badge. Normal charges apply.

## Contact us

### Diagnostic imaging department

East Surrey Hospital  
Redhill Surrey RH1 5RH  
Tel: 01737 231 607  
[www.surreyandsussex.nhs.uk](http://www.surreyandsussex.nhs.uk)

## Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Telephone: 01737 231 958  
Email: [pals@sash.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@sash.nhs.uk)  
Write to: PALS, East Surrey Hospital  
Redhill, Surrey RH1 5RH

You can also ask a member of staff to contact PALS on your behalf.

This information can be made available in other languages and formats, including larger text.  
Contact: 01737 231 958 for help.

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