

**THE MOST IMPORTANT  
THING WE DO IS PROVIDE  
THE BEST HEALTHCARE  
AND MEDICAL SERVICES  
FOR OUR PATIENTS  
IN A CARING AND TIMELY WAY**

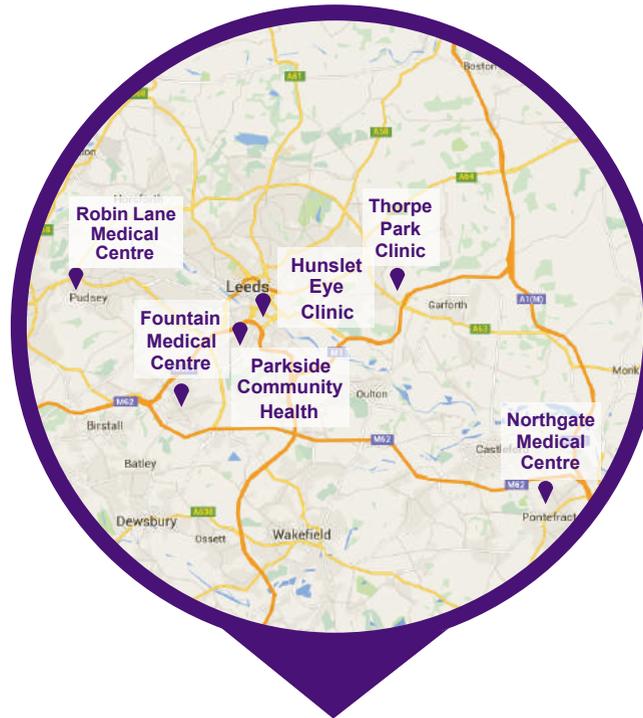
For any further  
information on your  
appointment or our services,  
please call our booking office  
number on

**0113 249 4655**

or email us on

**email@livingcare.co.uk**

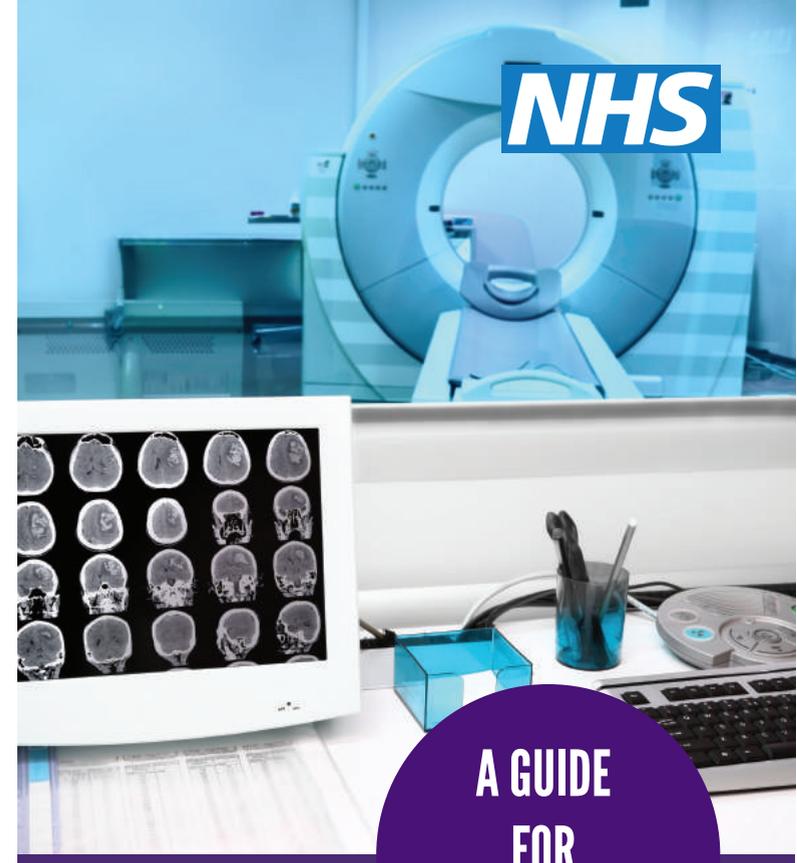
where our friendly and  
efficient staff will do  
their very best  
to assist you



**YOU CAN FIND ALL INDIVIDUAL CLINIC MAPS,  
DIRECTIONS AND BUS ROUTES ON  
[WWW.LIVINGCARE.CO.UK](http://WWW.LIVINGCARE.CO.UK)  
UNDER 'PATIENTS'**



LivingCare is the trading name for Fountain Diagnostic Limited and Leodis Care Limited. Fountain Diagnostic Limited whose registered office is at 96 Marsh Lane, Leeds LS9 8SR and registered number is 05814528. Leodis Care Limited whose registered office is at 5-7 East Park Road Leeds LS9 9JD and registered number is 06442564



**A GUIDE  
FOR  
PATIENTS**

*MRI SCAN*

**YOUR APPOINTMENT AT LIVINGCARE.**



# MRI

## PATIENT INFORMATION.

This leaflet tells you about having a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) Scan. It explains what is involved and what the possible risks are. It is not meant to replace any informed discussion between you and your doctor, but can act as a starting point for such a discussion.

Whether you are having an MRI scan as a planned or an emergency procedure, you should have a sufficient explanation before you sign the patient questionnaire and consent form.

## WHAT IS AN MRI?

MRI (Magnetic resonance imaging) is the name given to a technique which builds up pictures of an internal cross-section of any part of the body under investigation. The machine is about four feet long and is open at both ends. The body part being scanned is positioned in the centre. The machine uses a magnetic field and radio waves, together with an advanced computer system to build up a series of images, each one showing a thin slice of the area being examined. These images are very detailed and can show both bones and soft tissues in the body and can provide a great deal of information. Using the computer system the 'slices' can be obtained in any direction.

MRI images allow doctors to evaluate parts of the body and certain diseases that may not be assessed adequately with other imaging methods such as x-ray, ultrasound, or (computed tomography) scanning.

## ARE THERE ANY RISKS?

As far as is known at present, this is an extremely safe procedure. It does not involve the use of x-rays. You are placed in a very powerful magnetic field. If you have any small pieces of metal inside your body, you should inform the radiographer as in some cases you may not be able to have the examination.

For female patients, if you are or might be pregnant, you must make sure the doctor referring you or a member of staff in the radiology department knows as soon as possible. MRI scans are not advisable in early pregnancy unless there are special circumstances.

## WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE MRI?

You will be taken into the MRI scan room and asked to lay on the couch. Pads and pillows may be used to help you stay still and maintain your position during imaging. You may be given a contrast medium (a dye), which helps to produce more detailed images. The contrast medium will be injected into a vein in your arm, which occasionally causes a warm feeling for a short while. If this is required you may need to have a blood test prior to your scan. The couch will be moved slowly to position the part of your body being scanned in the centre of the scanner.

The radiographers will retire to the control room but you will be able to talk to them via an intercom and they will be watching you all the time.

It is important that you remain completely still while the images are being recorded.

During the scan, you may well find the machine very noisy and you will be given headphones/ or earplugs to use. If you feel uncomfortable or worried, do mention it immediately to the radiographer.

## HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

The process of taking the images usually takes about 20–30 minutes and your total time in the department is likely to be about 45 minutes.

## ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

No. You can drive home afterwards and return to work as necessary.

## IS THERE ANY SPECIAL PREPARATION REQUIRED?

You don't need to have any special preparation for a routine MR scan. Unless you have been told otherwise, you may eat and drink normally before and after the scan.

## CAN I BRING A RELATIVE/FRIEND?

Yes, but for safety reasons they may not be able to accompany you into the scan room, unless there are special circumstances.

## WHEN YOU ARRIVE.

Please go to the reception desk detailed in your appointment letter. After this you will be shown where to wait until collected by a radiographer or other member of staff.

Your safety questionnaire will be checked and you will be asked to sign it. You may be asked to remove your outer garments. You will be asked to remove jewellery (except your wedding ring), cash, keys, credit cards and watches etc and place them in a secure locker.

You will be cared for by a small team, including a radiographer who will perform the examination.

## WHEN WILL I GET MY RESULTS?

After the scan the radiologist will examine the images. A report on their findings will be prepared and sent to your referring clinician.

**MISSED PATIENT APPOINTMENTS  
ARE COSTING THE NHS  
A HUGE 7 BILLION POUNDS  
PER YEAR!**

If you are unable to make your appointment - please contact us on 0113 249 4655 or text 07713 198617 and we will happily rearrange or cancel for you.



