

## How will I receive the results of my MRCP scan?

The results of your MRCP scan will not be available immediately. The results will be sent to the clinician/surgeon who referred you for the MRCP scan.

**It is important to tell your doctor and / or contact the MRI department on 01-8094826 PRIOR to your MRCP scan appointment if you have or have had any of the following:**

- A pacemaker
- An artificial heart valve
- Aneurysm Clips (these are metal clips that are inserted during some operations, especially in the blood vessels or the brain).
- Metal fragments in the eye, head or body (if you suspect that a metal fragment may have entered your eye, particularly if you have ever worked with a lathe or metal grinding equipment, please contact us for advice)
- Reprogrammable shunt
- Vagal Nerve Stimulator
- Any surgery in the six weeks prior to your appointment

- Any surgery which involved placing implants in your head or body
- If you are or may be pregnant

### **Directions (MRI Beaumont Hospital)**

The MRI Department is located in the radiology department on the lower ground floor of the hospital. Please check in at the main x-ray reception desk on arrival.

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**Beaumont Hospital  
Imaging and Interventional  
Radiology Directorate**

## **MRCP Patient Information**

**Welcome to the  
MRI  
Department**

### **Important Note**

*Please check your appointment letter as to whether your MRI examination appointment is scheduled for **Beaumont Hospital** or for **MRI in St. Lukes Radiation oncology centre** located on **Beaumont Campus***

## Introduction

An MRCP scan has been requested for you and this leaflet explains what this scan involves

## What is an MRCP scan?

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) uses a strong magnetic field to produce high quality images in multiple planes or directions. The images are generated using superconducting magnets and pulsed radio waves. Magnetic resonance imaging uses non ionising radiation, unlike x-rays which use radiation. An MRCP scan is an MRI scan of you liver, bile ducts, gallbladder and pancreas.

## Is an MRCP scan safe?

Because of the strong magnetic field used to produce the MR image some people are not suitable for scanning by MRI. It is important for us to know if you have metallic/electrical implants or have had certain operations. Therefore you will be asked to complete an MRI safety questionnaire prior to your MR examination to determine if it is safe for you to proceed with your MR scan. If you have any queries or doubts when filling out the questionnaire please consult the radiographer prior to your scan.

## What happens during the MRCP scan?

The MRI scanner is a circular brightly lit machine with a wide central core that is open at both ends. The radiographer will position you on the MR table either head first or feet first depending on the type of scan you are having done. The MR table will slide slowly into the MR scanner so that the part of your body to be scanned is in the centre of the magnet bore. As the MR scan is very noisy we will provide you with ear protection. We can play music via the radio or a CD during the scan if you wish. We can see and hear you during the scan and you will be provided with an emergency button which you can press if you need assistance. It is important to remain very still during the scan. There are no after-effects from an MR scan.

## How long will it take to perform the MRI scan?

MRCP scans normally take 20-40 minutes. As Beaumont is an acute hospital there may be occasions when other patients may need to be scanned urgently which could mean you experience a delay to your appointed time. Please allow for 2-3 hours in the MRI department on this

basis. **Please arrive 15 minutes early for your MRI appointment** to ensure delays are kept to a minimum.

## Will I need an injection?

You will not need an injection for the MRCP scan.

## What preparation is needed for an MRCP scan?

You must not eat any food or drink any liquids for at least 4 hours prior to your MRCP scan. For example if your MRCP scan is scheduled for the morning **DO NOT** have breakfast. If it is scheduled for the afternoon you may have breakfast but **DO NOT** have lunch.

Prior to entering the MRI scanning room you will be asked to remove any metallic items from your body such as jewellery, hair pins, hearing aids, mobile phones, coins and credit cards. You may be asked to change into a hospital gown for your MRI.

Please read your appointment letter carefully and completely. If you have any queries regarding implants, operations, your appointment time or if you are pregnant please contact the MRI department on **01-8094826 / 4827**