

Contact Telephone Numbers:

Neonatal Unit, Lister Hospital 01438 284125
Children's Emergency Department 01438 284606

Further Information

For more information see the Bliss Baby Charity website at:
www.bliss.org.uk

Bliss helpline telephone number: 0808 801 0322
Or e-mail: hello@bliss.org.uk

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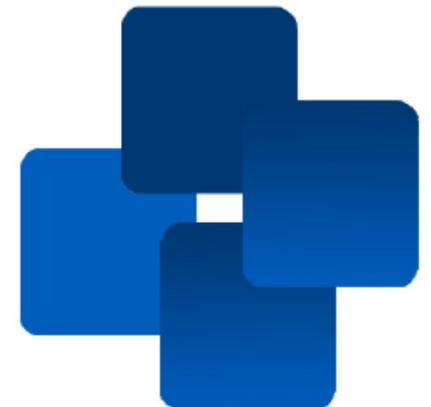
www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk

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information in a different
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Information for Parents

MRI Scans

Neonatal Unit



What is an MRI scan?

An MRI scan is a type of scan that takes detailed pictures of your baby's body using a combination of magnetic field, radio waves and a powerful computer rather than x-rays.

The scanner is a machine that has a 'hole' running horizontally through the middle and on which there is a bed that slides into the machine. Your baby will be placed on the bed and the bed moved into the tube.



There is a loud knocking noise whilst the scan is in progress and every effort will be made to protect your baby's ears from the noise. The scan usually takes between 20 minutes to an hour.

Why does my baby need an MRI scan?

Having an MRI scan will help to provide more detailed information that will help to plan your baby's treatment.

Will there be any special preparation?

- As it is important that your baby is still for the scan, he/she will be given some sedation prior to the scan. If your baby is ventilated then the sedation will be given through an intravenous drip. If your baby is not ventilated then the sedation can be given orally or rectally.
- If your baby is being fed then this may be stopped prior to the appointment for the scan to ensure that your baby is comfortable throughout the scan.
- Metal objects must not be worn because the scanner emits a strong magnetic field, so any clothes with poppers or zips must be changed before your baby goes for the scan.

- Your baby will be transferred to the scanning department either in the transport incubator or cot.
- Your baby will be monitored throughout the scan.
- A nurse and/or doctor will remain with your baby during the scan.

Are there any risks?

There are no known risks associated with MRI scans. The scanner does not touch your baby during the scan. If detailed images are required, some contrast or 'dye' may be injected into an intravenous line to show up blood vessels. This 'dye' is safe and should not affect your child.

When will the results be available?

The results of this examination will be sent to your baby's doctor as soon as possible and the doctors will discuss the results with you.

Consent

After you have read this information and once you have understood why your baby requires this test, the doctors may ask for your verbal consent. The doctors will discuss any questions you may have about the test.