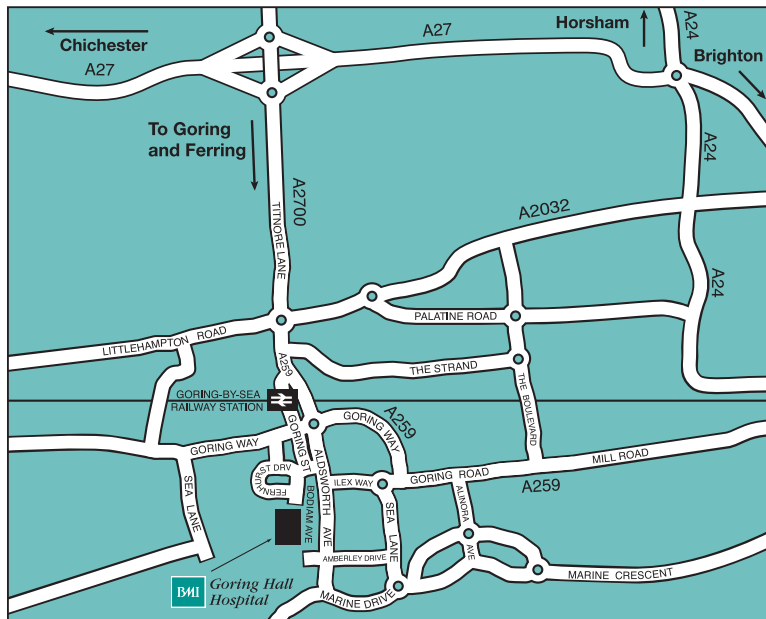
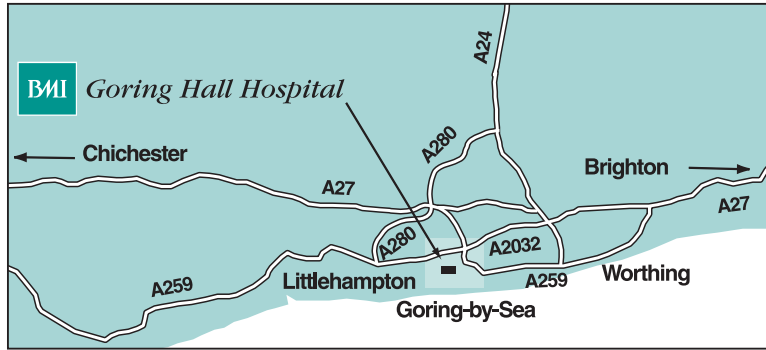


Open MRI Centre

at Goring Hall Hospital

How to find us



BMI Goring Hall Hospital

Bodiam Avenue Goring-by-Sea
 Worthing West Sussex BN12 5AT
 Tel 01903 700787 (direct line)
 www.bmihealthcare.co.uk/goringhall

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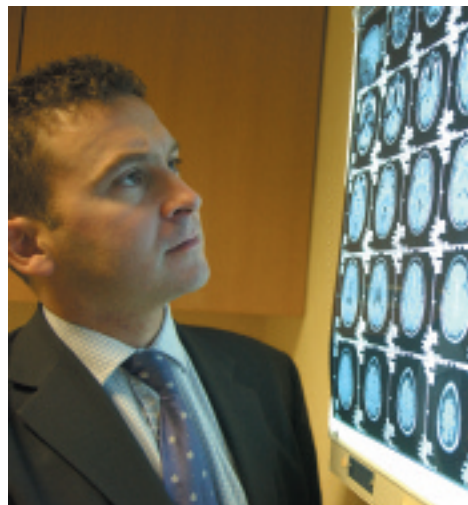
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What is MRI?

MRI is a non-invasive technique which uses magnetic fields and radio waves to generate images of the human body, without the need for x-rays. To assist with the early diagnosis of problems, dimensional images of the brain, spinal cord, joints, blood vessels and other organs can be produced. The MRI scanner is monitored via a computer, operated by highly qualified radiographers and the images produced as a result of the scans are interpreted by our team of specialist radiologists.



What is open MRI?

Open MRI refers to the design of the MRI scanner, which, unlike conventional MRI tunnels, is completely wide open, making it ideal for all types of patients. The open MRI is particularly suited for claustrophobic patients and is easily tolerated by large, anxious patients and children. In addition, the open design permits the examination of joints in any position, enhancing the chance of detection of injuries.

Known benefits of an MRI

MRI is the diagnostic procedure of choice for imaging the brain, spine and joints and frequently obviates the need for exploratory surgery. Thanks to the enhanced images obtained during the procedure, radiologists can detect problems more easily, resulting in quicker access to treatments and subsequently an increase in the chances of recovery. MRI does not use x-rays and is known to be a safe clinical investigation. The lack of published evidence of any adverse effects following the use of MRI has led researchers to conclude, or at least assume, that the incidence of any associated health risks are either too low to deserve further study, or are non-existent.



What can be scanned?

MRI scanning can image most parts of the body and may therefore be used to investigate:

- Brain disorders
- Spine problems
- Joint problems
- Eye abnormalities
- Traumatic injuries
- Tumour detection
- Musculoskeletal conditions
- Dental problems

The MRI procedure

On arrival, you would need to go to the Open MRI Centre, located within the hospital's Radiology Department. You will first be asked to provide details of your medical history and sign a consent form for the MRI procedure.

The Open MRI examination is completely painless and usually takes about 30-45 minutes, depending on the part or parts of the body to be scanned. You will however need to allow for up to an hour in total to be spent at the hospital.

When entering the scanning room, you will be asked to lie on a bed that moves in and out of the MRI machine. It is possible during the procedure to listen to a CD of your choice, which you would have brought along with you. Make sure you relax and stay still to ensure that the images taken are of high quality for the radiologist's interpretation. If you wish to have a friend or family member next to you during the scan, please inform the radiographer immediately upon arrival. Once you are in the correct position to be scanned, the radiographer will leave the scanning room to monitor the examination from a console in the control



room next door. The radiographer will be able to see, hear and speak to you at all times throughout the procedure via an intercom and viewing window. Any discomfort or distress experienced can therefore be notified at any time of the scan.

A coil, necessary to help the MRI machine take pictures and described by patients as 'an aerial for the magnetic waves', may be placed over the area to be examined. The scanner will produce various humming, knocking and grating sounds whilst the scan is performed – do not worry, as this is completely normal. Ear protection is available should you require it.



Head coil

Results

One of our specialist radiologists studies the images produced during your scan and provides a diagnostic report to your referring doctor, usually within 24 hours. The results will then be discussed between your doctor and yourself to agree on the best treatment possible for your condition. As our Open MRI Centre recognises the demands of professional sports, we will always endeavour to offer immediate reports, as and when requested.

Special precautions

No special preparation is needed for an MRI examination. You may eat normally and go about your daily routine, both before and immediately after the examination. Medication may also be continued, unless specifically advised by your doctor/consultant. If you still experience some concern about the procedure, you are free to discuss any aspects of the scan with our radiographers.

As the scan involves the use of magnetic fields, you will be asked to leave any metal or magnetic items in a locker outside the scanning room. This includes jewellery, hairpins, hearing aids, money, keys, watches, glasses, and credit cards.

You may also be asked to remove any make-up or dentures and to wear a gown to avoid magnetic interference from belt buckles and zips.

Some patients may not be suitable for MRI scanning because of the strong magnetic field. These include patients with:

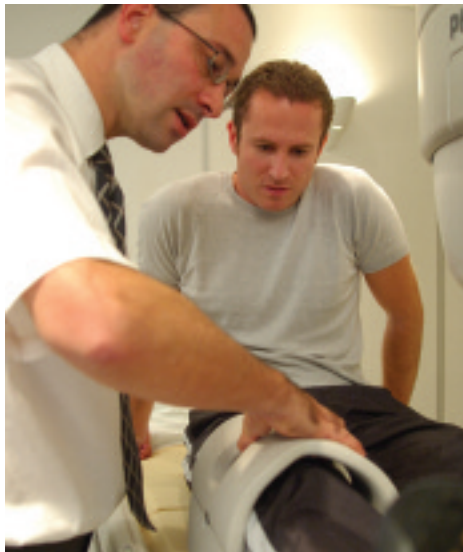
- Heart pacemakers
- Cochlear implants
- Aneurysm clips
- Neuro-stimulators
- Surgical staples
- Implanted drug infusion device
- Certain types of heart valve
- Foreign metal objects in the eye
- Shrapnel or bullet wounds
- Permanent eyeliner
- Joint prostheses, plates or screws



Body/spine coil

Pregnant women and anyone who works or has worked with metal should consult their doctor for advice before booking an MRI scan.

If you think that you may belong to one of the above categories, you must inform our radiographer prior to your appointment as we may decide for your own safety that you should NOT undergo the examination.



Will I have an injection?

Sometimes, to gain extra information from the scans, it is necessary to give an injection of a contrast agent (special dye) into the arm. The contrast agent is a fluid, which will show up on the MRI images. It is not radioactive and does not contain iodine.

In some extremely rare instances, patients being given a contrast injection may experience an adverse reaction to the material, which although usually minor and temporary, can take on a more severe form. It is therefore essential that you complete

your medical history form accurately and inform us of any medical conditions you have.

How can I make an appointment for an MRI scan?

Goring Hall Hospital Open MRI Centre offers MRI bookings initially from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, with prospects of extending its opening hours in the near future.

For an MRI examination, the referring clinician would need to complete a diagnostic imaging form and return it to our Radiology Department to get a confirmed appointment for the patient. Your consultant may obtain the above request forms by contacting our staff within the department.

Language requirement

For non-English speaking patients, an interpreter will be required for the whole clinical examination.

Why are MedTel's Open MRI Centres so unique?

MedTel's Open MRI Centres provide a consistent first-class quality service, adhering to strict commonsense clinical governance guidelines and regularly

reviewing its level of care by means of patient focus groups and satisfaction questionnaires. Key elements of the service include:

- Prompt appointment access, usually within 24 hours
- Specialist radiologists covering all areas of expertise
- Targeted 24 hour radiologist reports.
- Joint motion studies for sports injuries
- Patient friendly system, suitable for patients with the most demanding clinical requirements
- No claustrophobic tunnels
- Ideal for children and larger patients
- High quality of images

Goring Hall Hospital Open MRI Centre

MedTel's team of specialist consultant radiologists provide referring clinicians and their patients with an efficient service of the highest quality. Goring Hall Hospital provides a unique synergy between referring doctors, clinical specialists, and radiology services.

For bookings and general enquiries, please contact our Diagnostic Imaging Department on:

Tel: 01903 700787
Fax: 01903 502426

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