

Preparation:

You should be advised by your doctor (if an outpatient) or when you make an appointment about what you might need to do to prepare for the scan.

Patients with certain implantable medical devices will not be able to use an MRI. As a general guide, please advise hospital doctors or hospital staff at the time of booking if you have any of the following:

- An implantable cardiac pacemaker, defibrillator, electrical stimulator or infusion pump
- If you have had an aneurysm clip or coil, vascular stent or filter, or surgical shunts inserted previously
- If you have previously had a joint replacement
- If you have Ocular (eye) or Cochlear (ear) implants
- If you have metallic piercings or foreign bodies in your body

Cost:

There are no costs to receive an MRI scan for eligible patients under the Medicare system. Not all scans are covered by Medicare – speak with your doctor about your eligibility.

Patients with non-eligible requests pay a private service fee. These fees are currently under review and will be comparable with the local private sector.

Making an appointment:

Your doctor will let you know if you require an MRI scan as part of your treatment. Ipswich Hospital accepts patients from GPs and specialists within the West Moreton catchment, and from West Moreton Health doctors who refer patients as part of their treatment. You can phone 3810 1111 to book an appointment if you are not already an inpatient at the hospital.

Patients will be given an MRI appointment based on medical priority, which will be determined in consultation with your doctor.

Some services may only be available on certain days. This will be confirmed at the time of booking.

Scans can be given to patients aged one year and above, and can be provided under anaesthesia – speak with your doctor to determine if this is a suitable option for you.

For more information contact:

**Medical Imaging
Ipswich Hospital
Ph: (07) 3810 1111**



Caring Better Together

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)



West Moreton Health's \$5.7 million Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanning suite opened in December 2019 at Ipswich Hospital, marking a major step in public health care for the West Moreton community.

How it works:

The 3T scanner, engineered by GE Healthcare, creates high-quality, cross-sectional imaging, including three-dimensional image reconstruction of the body, without the use of ionising radiation.

Imaging can also be produced by using a blanket that wraps around the patient instead of fixed, hard coils to receive the imaging data. This means that there are more options for imaging, especially in unusual presentations, making the experience more comfortable. Patients can also be placed in the scanner feet first for all scans if needed, leading to a better experience for people who are claustrophobic.

The new unit will help clinicians diagnose life-threatening conditions such as spinal infections, cancer, stroke, heart and brain issues much more rapidly.

Duration:

While the scanning process takes about 30 minutes, special preparation will be required for certain scans and will take longer. When you book your appointment, you will be given a more accurate time frame depending on your scan type and requirements.

