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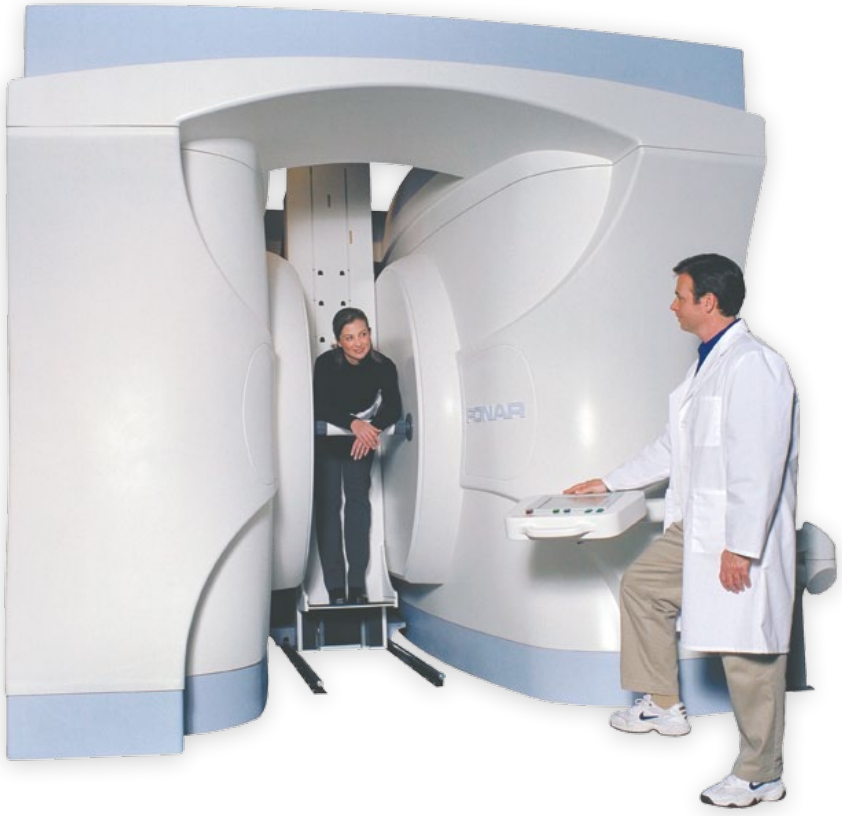
Upright MRI Centre



Upright Positional MRI

A new concept providing real benefits to patients

- Weight-bearing and variable patient positioning enables a more precise diagnosis
- Truly open system enhances patient comfort for an anxiety-free examination

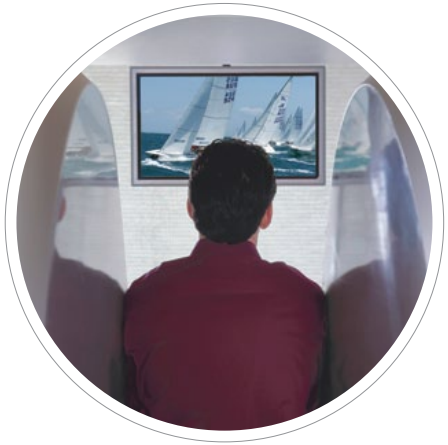
www.trulyopenmri.com

The truly open Upright™ MRI

There is considerable evidence that Upright positional MRI provides medical benefits not duplicated by any other MRI technology.

The bed can rotate from supine to upright

Upright Weight-Bearing MRI scans



Acquire flexion and extension MRI scans, since there is nothing in front of the patient's face

- Patient positioning plays a critical role in detecting clinically significant pathology.
- Compare MRI scans in flexion, extension, sitting, standing, lateral bending and supine positions.
- Supine-only imaging can underestimate the maximum degree of pathology.
- There are peer-reviewed publications that demonstrate the impact on treatment.
- Upright positional MRI offers exceptional patient comfort, but this technology is not just for claustrophobic patients.

The Upright Positional MRI System offers the unique possibility of scanning patients in an upright or weight-bearing position versus the conventional supine MRI position. Supine scans may not detect certain pathology that becomes visible only when the patient is in an upright or weight-bearing position. This is especially the case with conditions affecting the spine.

Upright MRI also has many other applications in the realm of Musculoskeletal imaging and Sports Medicine. Knees, hips, feet and ankles may all benefit from a weight bearing scan, as patients often complain about pain only when standing or walking.

This truly open MRI system also has advantages for those who are unable to undertake conventional scans due to claustrophobia or large body habitus – or are unable to lie down comfortably due to certain conditions like kyphosis. It provides a radiation-free way to assess scoliosis serially in the erect position.

What is the Upright Positional MRI advantage in evaluation of Spinal pathology?

It is now possible to examine the patient under natural load; the intervertebral discs, for example, are exposed to a pressure that is 11-times higher when sitting than when supine. These load dependent changes can reveal pathology either not visible or underestimated in the supine position. The Upright Positional MRI method is also the only procedure that allows examination of the spine in various body postures. The patient can be examined in varying degrees of flexion or extension, rotating, or bending laterally – to the position where they experience most pain.

It is now possible to image and clearly prove instabilities as a result of vertebral slipping or position-dependent disc herniation that may either be underestimated or undiagnosed when imaged supine. It is possible to examine spinal canal and nerve exits in greater detail while they are in functional positions: they may have a normal width while lying down but may be pathologically narrowed during flexion or hyperextension of the spine. The technical specifications of this scanner mean that post-operative patients' scans will have smaller metal artefacts from surgical hardware than on a higher-field MRI.

A list of all Upright MRI publications is available on our Web site. The following examples illustrate some key benefits of performing an Upright MRI:

Clinical MRI (2006) Volume 15, Issue 3 [ESSR (2005) Oxford
"Positional Upright Imaging of the Lumbar Spine Modifies the Management of Low Back Pain and Sciatica"
FW Smith, M.D. et al., Department of Radiology, University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
In a study of 25 patients with low back pain and sciatica referred to the Upright MRI for lumbar spine MRIs following at least one prior "normal" recumbent MRI within 6 months of referral: "13 patients [52%] demonstrated abnormalities in one or more of the seated postures that were not evident in the … supine exam … Each of the thirteen patients has undergone appropriate surgery and six months post-surgery they remain symptom free."

Clinical Radiology (2008) 63, 1035-1048
"Upright Positional MRI of the Lumbar Spine"
F. Alyas, et. al., Dept. of Radiology, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust, Stanmore, Middlesex.
"… there is no doubt that clinically relevant spinal canal stenosis can be uncovered by imaging the erect position. In cases where conventional MRI shows no evidence of cauda equina or lumbar nerve root compression in the setting of convincing clinical symptoms that warrant surgical intervention, re-imaging in the upright position, with the addition of flexion and extension, is recommended."

Referrals

Referrals are welcomed from healthcare professionals including Consultants, GPs, Osteopaths, Physiotherapists and Chiropractors. All patients require a referral from a healthcare professional. NHS patients are also welcomed, with prior approval of and arrangement by the relevant NHS Trust .

How to book your scan:

Patients go online at:
www.trulyopenmri.com and
"Make a booking enquiry"

Professionals go online at:
www.trulyopenmri.com and download a **"Patient Referral"** form

Or call us at: **020 7370 6003**

The Medserena Upright MRI Centre, Kensington

Our flagship Centre has been established in London capitalising on the experience of operating Centres across Germany. We have a team of specialised Consultant Radiologists working with our Clinical Director, Professor Francis Smith who has unsurpassed expertise in Upright MRI.

Professor Francis W. Smith M.D, FFRRCSI, FRCR, FRSC(Ed), FRCP(Ed), FFSEM (UK)

Prof Francis Smith is a Consultant Radiologist and also holds a personal chair in Health & Sports Science at the Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen.

As a radiologist he has worked with MRI since 1980, pioneering its use in clinical practice, especially for the spine and major joints. During the past twelve years he has worked to develop its use for imaging the body in the Upright, weight bearing position, demonstrating its value for the evaluation of the spine and weight bearing joints. He has written over 250 scientific papers and is a reviewer for both The Spine Journal and the European Spine Journal. He was the inaugural President of the Society of Magnetic Resonance Imaging and is a Gold medal recipient of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine. He has also been honoured by the British Institute of Radiology having been awarded the Barclay medal in 1999 and being appointed the Sir Godfrey Hounsfield Memorial lecturer in 2009.

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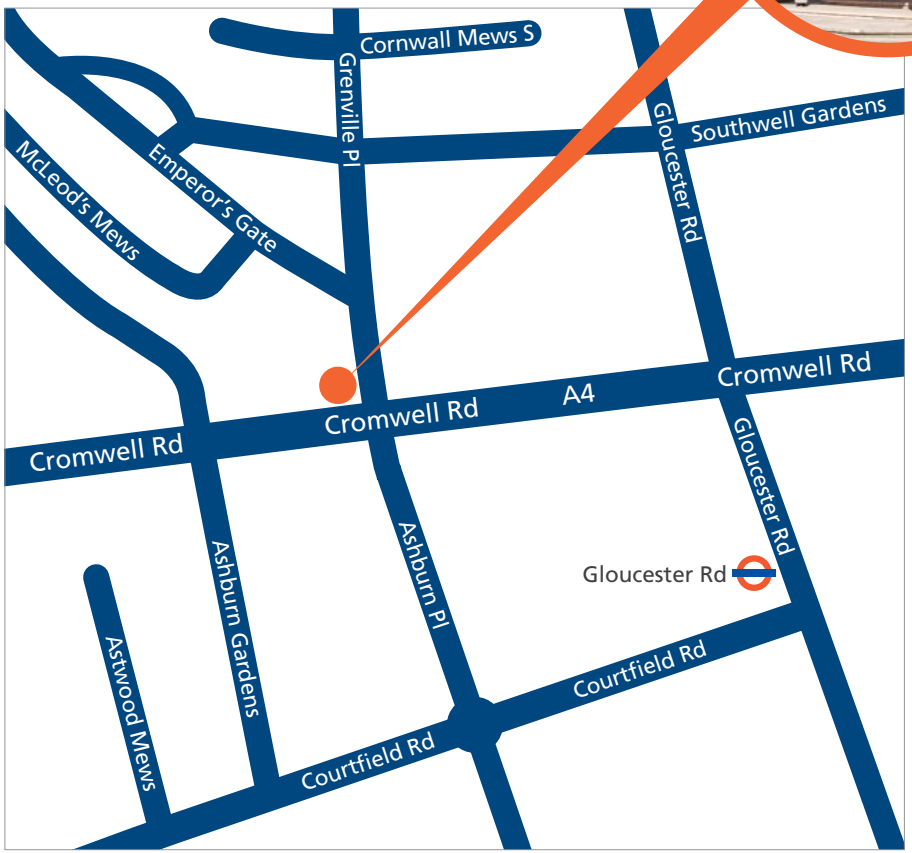

Medserena Upright MRI Centre
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Telephone: 020 7370 6003 E-mail: info@trulyopenmri.com
Web: www.trulyopenmri.com

How to find us:

Medserena Upright MRI Centre is directly opposite the Holiday Inn Hotel on Cromwell Road, approximately 200-300m from Gloucester Road Underground Station (Circle, District and Piccadilly lines). The site is also served by the No. 74 bus route.

Directions from Gloucester Road Underground Station (2 minute walk):

Turn left on leaving the station and turn left again onto Cromwell Road at the junction with Gloucester Road. Pass by Waitrose heading towards the Holiday Inn. We are located on the opposite side of the road, approximately 200m from this junction.

Parking:

There is some metered parking available at the side of the building in Grenville Place or behind the premises in Emperor's Gate – but spaces cannot be guaranteed. Wheelchair access is available.

How to book your scan:

Patients go online at: **www.trulyopenmri.com** and **"Make a booking enquiry"**

Professionals go online at: **www.trulyopenmri.com** and download a **"Patient Referral"** form

Or call us at: **020 7370 6003**