



# Patient Information

A guide to having a scan at the  
Medserena Upright MRI Centre

[www.trulyopenmri.com](http://www.trulyopenmri.com)

The truly open Upright™ MRI

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Upright Positional MRI, a new concept providing real benefits to patients

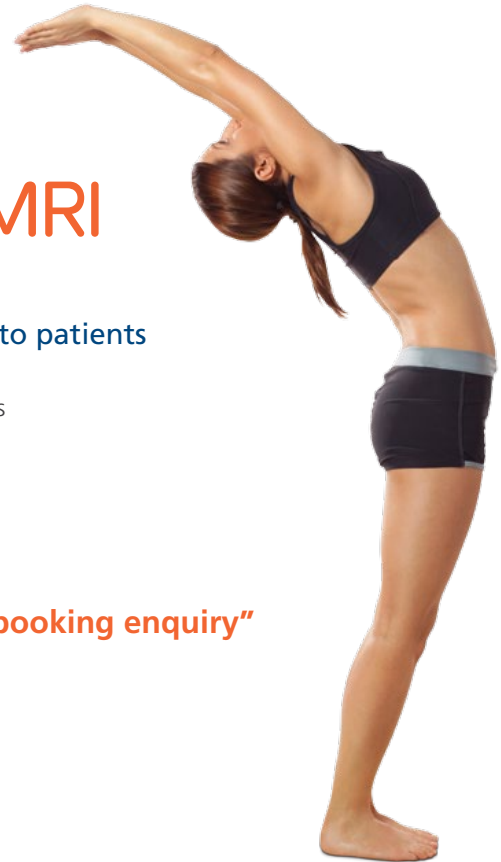
- Weight-bearing and variable patient positioning enables a more precise diagnosis
- Truly open system enhances patient comfort for an anxiety-free examination



Go online at:

[www.trulyopenmri.com](http://www.trulyopenmri.com) and **“Make a booking enquiry”**

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



## What is MRI?

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) utilises a large magnet, radio waves and a computer to form images of your body. It is non-invasive, painless and does not use any ionising radiation.



## Why is Upright MRI different?

This is a truly open MRI that can scan you in different positions. Through the utilisation of a specially designed MRI system we can offer weight-bearing scans – sitting or standing. The design of the system allows the patient to be positioned in different postures (e.g. flexion or extension) so that the patient may be examined in the position where they experience pain. The reason to do this is that some

pathologies are underestimated or even not seen in a conventional supine MRI scan. The technique has value in many applications: e.g. spine, knees, hips, ankles. This has been proven in scientific studies and documented in peer reviewed publications.



In addition, it offers the possibility of performing an MRI scan on patients who could not otherwise tolerate the examination. This may include the claustrophobic patient, who benefits from the truly open nature of the equipment, and the severely kyphotic patient or emphysema sufferer who simply cannot lie down. It can also facilitate scanning of large patients who struggle to fit conventional 'bore' MRI scanners.

## What do I do to prepare for my scan?

Eat and drink normally and, unless your doctor tells you otherwise, please continue taking medications as normal. If you have any special needs (e.g. wheelchair access) please inform us when making the appointment.

## What should I bring with me when I come for my appointment?

Your appointment confirmation; referral letter/form; Medical Insurance details if applicable. We accept all major debit/credit cards.

## How should I dress?

We will provide a gown/clothing for you to wear when you are scanned. If you prefer to wear your own, please ensure that you wear or bring clothing without any metal fasteners, zips or under-wiring as these cannot be worn in the scan room. The changing room can be locked for safe storage of your possessions.

## What will happen during the scan?

You will be able to walk into the scanner. It has no tunnel or bore. You will be able to hear us and talk with us during your scan if necessary – and we will be able to see you at all times.



Due to its open nature, you will even be able to watch TV or a DVD whilst having the scan. Depending on which part of you is being scanned, you may be asked to sit or stand, and assume different postures (for example bending forward.) The radiographer may place a receiver “coil” around the relevant area of your body. You will need to remain very still while the acquisition is done in order to prevent blurring of the images. You will hear some tapping from the scanner but in general it is much quieter than many other MRI scanners.

## What will I feel?

You will not feel anything while having the scan. There is no pain or unusual feeling of any type and you will experience no after effects.

## Will anything prevent me from having an MRI scan?

YES. There are some things that can prevent you from having an MRI scan. You will be asked to complete a safety questionnaire on arrival at the Centre which will cover the contra-indications – but if you are making an appointment and any of the factors below affect you, please discuss this with us in advance as it may save you a wasted trip.

### Contra-indications can include:

- Pacemaker
- Surgical clips
- Metal fragments in the body
- Joint replacements
- Cochlear implants
- Metal heart valves
- IUDs
- Pregnancy
- Metal pins/plates/screws
- Metal objects in eyes
- IVC filters
- Penile implants

*It is also important to tell us if you have any tattoos or piercings.*

## Can I bring someone with me?

Of course – we have a comfortable waiting area – but if you want them to stay in the scan room with you, they will also need to fill out a safety questionnaire.

## Please keep these items out of the scan room

Watches, jewellery, coins, keys, cigarette lighters, penknives, credit cards. Piercings, hairgrips, wigs, nicotine patches, and hearing aids must be removed.

## How soon will the results be ready?

Your scan will be reported by a Consultant Radiologist. It will normally be available in a couple of days unless needed urgently. The images and report will be sent to your referring practitioner. If you have a follow up appointment, please make us aware of the details so we can ensure the report and images are available in time.



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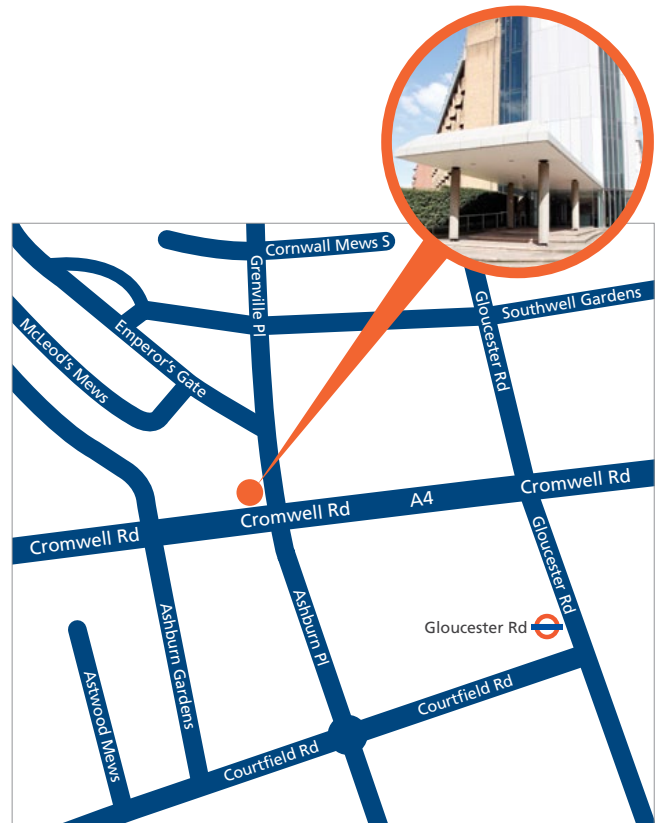
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## How to find us:

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 premise in Emperor's Gate-but spaces cannot be guaranteed. The meter machine accepts coinage, current rate is £4.60p per hour, or Pay by Phone or Web app. Maximum stay is 4 hours. Wheelchair access is available.



### Medserena Upright MRI Centre

**Head Office:** 114a Cromwell Road, Kensington,  
London, SW7 4ES