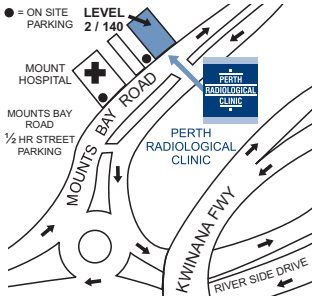
The Perth Radiological Clinic Difference

- 16 convenient locations.
- Caring, helpful and professional staff.
- State-of-the-art diagnostic equipment.
- Over 40 specialist radiologists, trained to provide you with accurate and reliable results.
- World class digital imaging networking between clinics provides the benefit of second opinions from specialist radiologists, no matter which of our clinics you attend.

Location Guide

THE MOUNT HOSPITAL 9424 4600



Mount Medical Centre

Level 2
140 Mounts Bay Rd
Perth

Fx: 9424 4630

Mon - Fri 8:00 - 5:30
Sat 9:00 - 12:00

- MRI
- Digital X-Ray
- Ultrasound
- Multislice CT
- Doppler
- FNA
- Interventional Radiology
- Mammogram

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) of the breasts

A Guide for Patients

An appointment has been made for you

At: .....

Time: .....

Date: .....

If you cannot keep your appointment please let us know well in advance.

PERTH RADIOLOGICAL CLINIC

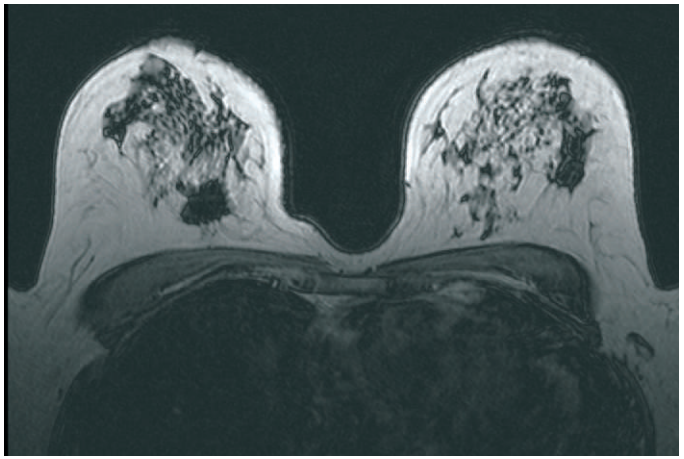
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) of the breasts

What is MRI of the breast?

An MRI scan involves no x-rays, as it uses magnetic fields and radio-frequency waves to produce an image that gives great detail of the breast tissue and surrounding structures. Generally, an intravenous injection of MRI contrast material (gadolinium) is required.

MRI allows significant freedom for the Radiologist in choosing what plane or orientation to view the breasts, while x-ray mammography requires re-orientation of the breast for the two standard views acquired.

The main strength of MRI is its ability to detect breast cancer - even within the middle of very dense breast tissue or in the presence of breast implants. This is because most breast cancers have abnormal blood vessels within them which means the contrast injected in your vein collects at the cancer site, making it visible on the MRI image. Although breast MRI is the most sensitive test available to detect breast cancer, not all cancers can be detected by MRI.



What is the evidence for breast MRI?

We have been involved in local studies showing that breast MRI is an effective tool in detecting breast cancer in women at high risk.

Large international studies show that MRI and mammography are equally important and each plays its own role in screening for the presence of breast cancer in women at increased risk.

A breast MRI uses expensive equipment and contrast. It takes time and requires staff with subspeciality expertise to perform the scan and to interpret it and issue a report to your doctor. Because of these reasons it is an expensive examination. A medicare rebate is available for screening women at high risk.

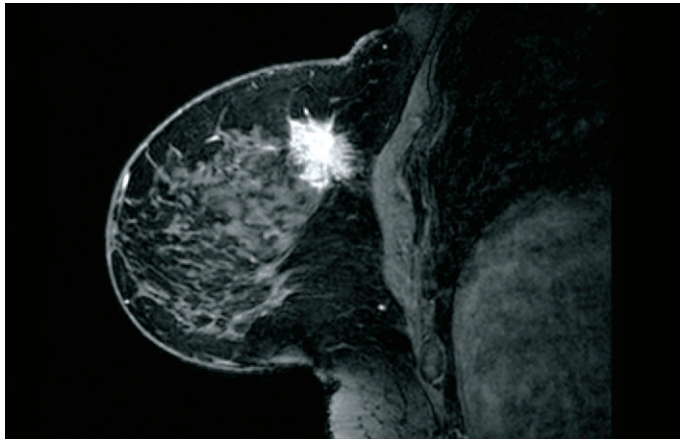
During the MRI scan

Usually an injection of intravenous contrast is required. A small needle will be put into a vein in your arm for the administration of contrast medium called gadolinium. The scans are taken with you lying prone (on your stomach) so that your breasts are positioned within a coil (a special piece of equipment) which collects signals to construct an image.

Your breasts are gently compressed into position.

After preliminary scans are taken, the contrast is injected and the scans are taken immediately.

If you are being scanned because there is a concern that your implants are ruptured you will not need the injection of contrast medium as ruptures are easily visualised.



Preparation

The scan may need to be booked at a particular time in your menstrual cycle. This will be discussed when your appointment is made.

How long will the procedure take?

The time in the MRI room is approximately 30 to 40 minutes. After the examination you should be able to resume your normal activities.

Please note

If you know that you have a history of any allergies – please inform the technician before the examination.

Always bring with you any previous breast mammograms or ultrasound images.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask us!