

# MRI



## WHAT IS IT?

Uses a large magnet and radio waves to look inside your body. Does not expose you to radiation.

## USED FOR?

Diagnosing torn ligaments, tumors, brain or spinal cord conditions, examining organs.

## WHAT HAPPENS?

You lie still on a table that slides inside a tunnel-shaped machine. You may have to hold your breath for parts of the exam. For some MRI scans you may receive a “contrast dye”, which makes parts of your body show up better. The dye can be given through an intravenous (IV) tube or a syringe in your arm. Some dye is given in a drink.

## TIP:

*The MRI makes a lot of noise. You may be offered earplugs.*



# Nuclear Scans



## WHAT IS IT?

Uses radioactive substances and a special camera to see inside your body. These scans can show you how organs, such as your heart and lungs are working.

## USED FOR?

Diagnosing blood clots, cancer, heart diseases, injuries, infections, thyroid problems.

## WHAT HAPPENS?

Before the test, you receive a small amount of radioactive material which makes parts of your body show up better. The material can be given through an intravenous (IV) tube or a syringe in your arm. Some is given in a drink and sometimes you inhale it. You wait as the material is absorbed by your body. This may take an hour or more. Then you lie on a table while the camera takes images.