

# MRI REFERRAL GUIDE

## Comprehensive MRI Indications for Referrers

**Supporting General Practitioners, Specialists, Orthopaedic Surgeons, Neurosurgeons, Neurologists, Sports Physicians, Rheumatologists, Oncologists, Urologists and Allied Health Providers**

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) is the gold-standard imaging modality for many neurological, musculoskeletal, spinal, pelvic, oncological and soft tissue conditions. MRI provides superior soft tissue contrast without ionising radiation and is often the preferred modality for detailed assessment of soft tissues, joints, ligaments, tendons, nerves and internal organs.

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## MRI BRAIN

### Common Indications

#### Neurological Symptoms

- Persistent headache
- New onset headache
- Migraine with red flag features
- Dizziness
- Vertigo
- Syncope
- Blackouts
- Altered mental status
- Memory impairment
- Cognitive decline
- Confusion

## **Seizure Disorders**

- New onset seizures
- Epilepsy assessment
- Seizure follow-up

## **Cerebrovascular Disease**

- Stroke
- TIA
- Cerebral infarction
- Cerebral haemorrhage follow-up

## **Demyelinating Disease**

- Multiple sclerosis
- Optic neuritis
- Suspected demyelinating disorders

## **Cranial Nerve Disorders**

- Facial numbness
- Facial weakness
- Trigeminal neuralgia
- Bell's palsy

## **Visual & Auditory Symptoms**

- Visual disturbance
- Diplopia
- Unexplained vision loss
- Hearing loss

- Tinnitus
- Vestibular schwannoma assessment

### **Intracranial Pathology**

- Brain tumour
  - Metastatic disease
  - Pituitary adenoma
  - Hydrocephalus
  - Infection
  - Encephalitis
  - Brain abscess
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## **MRI INTERNAL AUDITORY MEATUS (IAM)**

### **Common Indications**

- Unilateral hearing loss
  - Sensorineural hearing loss
  - Tinnitus
  - Vertigo
  - Vestibular schwannoma assessment
  - Facial nerve disorders
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## **MRI PITUITARY**

### **Common Indications**

- Pituitary adenoma

- Hyperprolactinaemia
  - Acromegaly
  - Cushing disease
  - Endocrine abnormalities
  - Visual field defects
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## **MRI ORBITS**

### **Common Indications**

- Visual loss
  - Optic neuritis
  - Orbital mass
  - Proptosis
  - Diplopia
  - Graves orbitopathy
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## **MRI CERVICAL SPINE**

### **Common Indications**

- Neck pain
- Cervical radiculopathy
- Arm pain
- Arm numbness
- Arm weakness
- Suspected disc prolapse

- Foraminal stenosis
  - Cervical stenosis
  - Cervical myelopathy
  - Trauma
  - Post-operative assessment
  - Spinal cord compression
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## **MRI THORACIC SPINE**

### **Common Indications**

- Thoracic pain
  - Radiculopathy
  - Myelopathy
  - Trauma
  - Vertebral lesions
  - Multiple sclerosis
  - Spinal tumour
  - Infection
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## **MRI LUMBAR SPINE**

### **Common Indications**

- Low back pain
- Sciatica
- Lumbar radiculopathy

- Leg numbness
  - Leg weakness
  - Disc prolapse
  - Disc herniation
  - Spinal stenosis
  - Neurogenic claudication
  - Spondylolisthesis
  - Degenerative disc disease
  - Post-operative assessment
  - Cauda equina syndrome
  - Trauma
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## **MRI SACROILIAC JOINTS**

### **Common Indications**

- Sacroiliitis
  - Ankylosing spondylitis
  - Inflammatory back pain
  - Psoriatic arthritis
  - Reactive arthritis
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## **MRI SHOULDER**

### **Common Indications**

- Rotator cuff tear

- Rotator cuff tendinopathy
  - Shoulder instability
  - Labral tear
  - SLAP tear
  - Biceps tendon pathology
  - Frozen shoulder
  - Impingement syndrome
  - Sports injuries
  - Osteoarthritis
  - Persistent shoulder pain
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## **MRI ELBOW**

### **Common Indications**

- Tennis elbow
  - Golfer's elbow
  - Tendon tears
  - Ligament injury
  - Osteochondral defects
  - Persistent pain
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## **MRI WRIST**

### **Common Indications**

- TFCC tear

- Ligament injury
  - Scaphoid injury
  - Occult fracture
  - Ganglion cyst
  - Carpal instability
  - Persistent wrist pain
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## **MRI HAND / FINGERS**

### **Common Indications**

- Tendon injury
  - Ligament injury
  - Soft tissue mass
  - Arthritis
  - Persistent pain
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## **MRI HIP**

### **Common Indications**

- Hip pain
- Labral tear
- Femoroacetabular impingement (FAI)
- Gluteal tendinopathy
- Avascular necrosis
- Stress fracture

- Sports injuries
  - Osteoarthritis
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## **MRI KNEE**

### **Common Indications**

- Meniscal tear
  - ACL injury
  - PCL injury
  - MCL injury
  - LCL injury
  - Chondral injury
  - Patellar instability
  - Osteochondral defect
  - Sports injuries
  - Persistent knee pain
  - Locked knee
  - Osteoarthritis
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## **MRI ANKLE**

### **Common Indications**

- Ligament injury
- Syndesmosis injury
- Achilles tendon pathology

- Tendon tears
  - Osteochondral lesions
  - Chronic ankle instability
  - Sports injuries
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## **MRI FOOT**

### **Common Indications**

- Plantar fasciitis
  - Morton's neuroma
  - Stress fracture
  - Tendon injury
  - Midfoot pain
  - Soft tissue mass
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## **MRI PELVIS**

### **Common Indications**

#### **Women's Health**

- Endometriosis
- Adenomyosis
- Fibroids
- Pelvic pain
- Complex adnexal masses

## **Gastrointestinal**

- Perianal fistula
- Rectal cancer staging

## **General**

- Pelvic masses
  - Pelvic malignancy
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# **MRI PROSTATE**

## **Common Indications**

- Elevated PSA
  - Suspected prostate cancer
  - Active surveillance
  - Pre-biopsy assessment
  - Prostate cancer staging
  - Post-treatment surveillance
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# **MRI BREAST**

## **Common Indications**

- High-risk breast screening
- BRCA mutation carriers
- Breast cancer staging
- Occult breast cancer
- Implant integrity assessment

- Treatment response monitoring
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## **MRI ABDOMEN**

### **Common Indications**

- Liver lesions
  - Pancreatic lesions
  - Adrenal lesions
  - Renal masses
  - Abdominal malignancy
  - Inflammatory bowel disease
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## **MRCP**

### **Common Indications**

- Biliary obstruction
  - Gallstones
  - Pancreatitis
  - Dilated bile ducts
  - Cholangitis
  - Pancreatic pathology
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## **MRI ONCOLOGY**

### **Common Indications**

- Cancer detection

- Local tumour staging
  - Metastatic assessment
  - Treatment planning
  - Treatment response assessment
  - Surveillance
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## **MRI SOFT TISSUE MASSES**

### **Common Indications**

- Lipoma
  - Soft tissue tumour
  - Sarcoma assessment
  - Palpable lump
  - Soft tissue infection
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## **MRI VASCULAR (MRA/MRV)**

### **Common Indications**

- Cerebral aneurysm
  - Vascular malformations
  - Arterial stenosis
  - Venous thrombosis
  - Carotid disease
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# COMMON GP MRI REFERRALS

## Neurology

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Hearing loss
- Multiple sclerosis

## Spine

- Neck pain
- Sciatica
- Back pain

## Sports Medicine

- Meniscal tears
- ACL injuries
- Rotator cuff tears

## Men's Health

- Elevated PSA
- Prostate cancer assessment

## Women's Health

- Endometriosis
- Pelvic pain

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## RED FLAG MRI INDICATIONS

- Cauda equina syndrome

- Acute spinal cord compression
  - Progressive neurological deficit
  - Suspected brain tumour
  - Multiple sclerosis
  - Spinal infection
  - Osteomyelitis
  - Septic arthritis
  - Soft tissue sarcoma
  - Metastatic disease
  - Acute vision loss
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## **HIGHEST-VOLUME MRI REFERRALS**

1. Lumbar Spine MRI
2. Knee MRI
3. Shoulder MRI
4. Cervical Spine MRI
5. Brain MRI
6. Hip MRI
7. Ankle MRI
8. Prostate MRI
9. Pelvic MRI
10. Wrist MRI
11. Breast MRI

## WHY REFER MRI TO RRD IMAGING CARSELDINE?

- ✓ Same-Day & Next-Day Appointments Available\*
  - ✓ Competitive Independent Clinic Pricing
  - ✓ Low-Gap MRI Options
  - ✓ Fast Report Turnaround
  - ✓ Expert MSK, Neurological & Prostate Reporting
  - ✓ Online Referrer Portal Access
  - ✓ Convenient North Brisbane Location
  - ✓ Exceptional Patient Experience
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## RRD IMAGING CARSELDINE

### Comprehensive MRI Services

Brain | Spine | Joints | Sports Injuries | Prostate | Pelvis | Breast | Abdomen | Oncology

MRI | CT | Ultrasound | Mammography | DEXA/BMD | OPG & CBCT | X-Ray

### Supporting GPs, Specialists and Allied Health Providers Across North Brisbane

**Fast Access. Competitive Pricing. Trusted Results.**