

MRI FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

• What is an MRI?

MRI stands for magnetic resonance imaging. It is an imaging scan that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to create detailed pictures of your brain. This helps researchers study brain structure and changes related to Parkinson's disease.

• Why is an MRI important to this study?

Changes in the brain could give researchers insight into why LRRK2-driven Parkinson's disease develops.

An MRI scan allows researchers to look at different aspects of brain health, such as structure and activity.

By combining these images, researchers can potentially identify patterns that may serve as biomarkers. These are clues that help us understand the disease and guide future treatments.

• What is not allowed in an MRI?

Due to the powerful magnets in the MRI scanner, metal and electronic objects cannot be brought into the scanning room. This includes:

- Belts, keys, coins, and jewelry
- Watches and hairpins
- Phones, credit cards, and other electronic devices
- Clothing with metal zippers or fasteners
- Medicated skin patches

The study team will review this with you before your scan to make sure everything is safe.

• What happens during an MRI?

- **Before the Procedure:** The study team will explain the MRI process and answer any questions you may have. You'll be asked to remove any metal objects and change into a gown provided at the clinic.
- **Positioning:** You will lie on a padded table that slides into the MRI scanner. The team will make sure you are comfortable and provide cushions or support if needed.
- **Preparation:** You'll be given ear protection because the scanner makes loud tapping sounds. The team will check that you can communicate during the scan and provide a call button so you can communicate with them at any time.
- **The Procedure:** The table will move slowly into the scanner, and you'll need to stay as still as possible while images are taken. The scan is painless and does not involve radiation. It usually takes about 45 to 60 minutes to complete.
- **Completion:** Once the scan is finished, the table will slide out, and the team will help you off. You can return to your normal activities right away unless the study team gives you other instructions.



• Is an MRI safe?

Yes. An MRI is generally considered safe and does not use radiation like X-rays or CT scans.

The scan should be painless. The most common concerns are lying still for a period of time and being in a narrow space, which can feel uncomfortable for some people. The study team is here to answer any questions or concerns you may have about the MRI procedure.

• Important safety information for MRI

For safety reasons, you may not be able to have an MRI if you have:

- A heart pacemaker or artificial heart valve
- Metal clips in your head from brain surgery
- Metal fragments or shrapnel in your body or eyes
- Inner ear implants
- A spinal cord stimulator, deep brain stimulator, or any nerve stimulator
- Certain metal plates, pins, or implants in your body
- Are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning a pregnancy

Your study team will review this with you before the scan.

• How is my privacy protected?

Your data is handled with care to protect your identity. Here's how:

- Each record is labeled with a study ID, not your name.
- Only approved study teams working on the research will have access to your information.
- Your personal information is removed before analysis, so researchers will not know the data belongs to you.
- All data is managed according to laws that protect your privacy.

• Will I get the results from my MRI?

If an MRI scan reveals something unexpected and clinically important, such as an abnormal result, the study team will let you know. With your permission, they may also share this information with your personal doctor and help arrange follow-up care if needed.

Research results that are not clinically relevant will not be returned.

• Any other questions?

If you have any other questions about the MRI procedure, you can discuss your concerns with a research team member involved in carrying out the study or a doctor involved in your care.

• Your Local Investigator for the LITE Study Is •

Principal Investigator: Dr. Esther Sammler

If you are interested in taking part in this study or would like more information, please ask the nurse or doctor looking after you to contact the study team.

Or: Call Researcher: [TBC]

Or: Email: [TBC]

We will discuss the study further and answer any questions you have.

You can find more information about the study in the Participant Information Sheet.