

# Whole-Body Magnetic Resonance Imaging (WB-MRI)

Whole-Body MRI scan enables one to have a comprehensive non-contrast screening from head to pelvis (excluding limbs) for early detection of diseases without exposure to radiation. Learn more about the screening areas, benefits and limitations of WB-MRI.



## What can WB-MRI examine?

WB-MRI can help detect abnormalities and tumours in the earliest stages of formation in different structures of the body, including:

- brain
- head & neck structures including the upper part of the throat, lymph nodes and salivary glands
- thoracic structures including the aorta, and central compartment of the thoracic cavity
- abdominal internal organs including the liver, gallbladder, spleen, pancreas, adrenals, kidneys and lymph nodes
- internal organs in the pelvis including the urinary bladder, prostate, ovary, and lymph nodes
- bone and soft tissue structures including the spinal cord, axial skeleton and trunk muscles.

### Checked by:

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## Benefits

MRI is capable of scanning the entire body for physical abnormalities, tumours in the earliest stages of formation, or simply an overall snapshot of one's general health for early detection of diseases.

It also eliminates the unnecessary stress of radiation exposure as it is free of ionizing radiation, making it the go-to choice for screening purpose.

The WB-MRI screening is carried out without the injection of contrast medium. It is a non-invasive screening as compared to a biopsy.

## Limitations

The lung parenchyma (the portion of the lungs involved in gas exchange), bowel structures, appendicular skeleton and other small bodily lesions are unable to be well-detected by the MRI scan. Further investigation will be required through a contrast scan, an ultrasound or a specialist's assessment of specific body parts for detailed evaluation after an initial WB-MRI screening scan.

## Contraindications

Please discuss with a healthcare professional for alternative screening options should you have the following conditions.

- severe claustrophobia
- a cardiac pacemaker
- metal fragments in head, eyes, ears or skin
- internal pacing wires or implantable defibrillator
- vascular clips
- intracranial or aneurysm clips
- an cochlear implant
- an insulin or infusion pump

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# 全身磁力共振掃描

全身磁力共振掃描毋須使用顯影劑，便可以由頭部掃描至盤骨(不包括四肢)，而且不涉及輻射，有助及早為病人偵測疾病。如需了解全身磁力共振掃描所包括的位置、優點和局限性，請閱讀以下資訊。



## 全身磁力共振可以檢查什麼？

全身磁力共振有助檢測身體不同結構中最早期形成的異常情況或腫瘤，當中包括以下位置：

- 腦部
- 頭頸結構，包括喉嚨上方、淋巴結和唾腺
- 胸腔結構，包括主動脈和胸腔的中央隔室
- 腹腔內器官，包括肝臟、膽囊、脾臟、胰臟、腎上腺、腎臟和淋巴結
- 骨盆內器官，包括膀胱、前列腺、卵巢和淋巴結
- 骨骼及軟組織結構，包括脊髓、中軸骨骼和軀幹肌肉

### 核對：

身體檢查部醫療主管許敏怡醫生

此健康單張所提供的資訊僅供參考之用，並不能取代醫生的專業意見。明德國際醫院及明德醫療中心對讀者在閱讀後所作出的任何決定並不負上任何責任。

## 優點

磁力共振可以掃描全身，從而找出異常和早期形成的腫瘤，或只對整體健康進行快速和概括的檢查，幫助及早偵測疾病。

磁力共振並不涉及輻射，與電腦掃描檢查比較，相對地對人體影響較少，因此是受歡迎的健康檢查。

全身磁力共振檢查可以毋須注射顯影劑地進行，因此也屬於非入侵性檢查。

## 局限性

對於檢查肺組織(即肺部進行氣體交換的部分)、腸道結構、四肢骨骼和其他微細的身體異常轉變，磁力共振的效用未如理想。

接受初步的全身磁力共振檢查後，可能有需要使用顯影劑掃描、超聲波檢查或經專科醫生詳細檢查身體特定部位作進一步評估。

## 不宜作全身磁力共振檢查的情況

若您有以下情況，請與專業的醫護人員商討其他可替代磁力共振的檢查方案。

- 患有嚴重的幽閉恐懼症
- 裝有心臟起搏器
- 頭部、眼睛、耳朵或皮膚內有金屬片
- 體內有起搏器電線或植入式除顫器
- 體內有血管夾
- 體內有顱內或動脈瘤夾
- 裝有人工耳蝸
- 裝有胰島素或輸液泵

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