

12 May 2025

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on Tuesday 6 May 2025. I am pleased to confirm the following:

What is the A&E guideline procedures for referring patients to MRI scans?

Once a patient has attended ED and been seen by the medical specialist practitioner, urgent and appropriate MRI referrals are then undertaken within the trust MRI facilities.

The four main request areas for ED MRI are:
Cancer (i.e. newly diagnosed and metastatic disease)
Hepatobiliary
Stroke/TIA
Trauma (i.e. cauda equina syndrome)

In Milton Keynes University Hospital out of the 2293 ED MRI examinations performed in financial year end 2024/25 the highest area of ED MRI request was cauda equina. Once there is suspicion of cauda equina ED will ensure a prompt request is issued and timely referral to the neurosurgical or trauma and orthopaedic team.

If traumatic/metastatic spinal cord compression is indicated, then an MRI scan will aid the initiation of treatment, and admission would be under the acute medical team who will liaise with the spinal/oncology team at Oxford University Hospitals.

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If you are unhappy with the information received in response to this request, please address your complaint to the Patient Affairs Office at Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes MK6 5LD. If, after exhausting our internal process, you are still unhappy with the information received,

you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Administrator
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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