

Operational statement: MRI Clinic, Mill Road

The clinic is a facility provided to serve the community and local area, in close proximity to Addenbrooke's. There are currently no other clinics in Cambridge outside Addenbrooke's where a person experiencing pain or with medical symptoms can go to have an MRI scan.

MRI scanning is safe, painless and non-invasive, used to provide advanced imaging into joints, muscles, bone marrow, blood vessels and organs such as the brain and heart, as well as other body structures. The clinic will provide additional services in the area and will contract with the NHS to continue the patient journey, helping to reduce waiting times and alleviating some of the painful waiting for users. This is one of the fastest growing diagnostic methodologies required for patients, dealing especially with an ageing population, which will be crucial to the health of the nation in the post-60-year-old generation.

We anticipate that some patients will wish to book directly through the website of the clinic, when an ailment or affliction presents, and therefore be able to turn up directly at an appointment time. Others will be referred via doctors' surgeries, PCTs or the hospital itself. It is not envisaged that ambulances will bring patients from the hospital, nor will anaesthetised patients be scanned at this facility.

On arrival, a patient will be registered, and records checked. After this, a patient will be pre-examined, as certain patients cannot undergo an MRI process, such as those with artificial cardiac pacemakers. Each procedure is likely to take 15 - 30 minutes, although longer scans will be provided as required.

Means of arrival – our experience suggests that most people are taken by car and dropped off for such medical procedures, and do not drive to clinics themselves. However, the highly sustainable location means that travel by a number of modes is possible. Patients may travel by public transport, by foot and a covered and secure bike storage facility is provided for travel by bicycle.

Daily, 8 am to 8 pm / 7 days per week

MRI scanning of patients

Up to four patients per hour

Two shifts of staff (one radiographer, one receptionist and one scanning assistant per MRI scan clinical shift)

Daily, 8 pm to 8 am / 7 days per week

Data administration activities – up to three staff

Cleaning of the MRI suite by specially trained staff (one)

Clinic cleaning – up to two cleaners

The entire process involves a quiet arrival, administration, procedure, recovery and departure, proposed for patients during a 12-hour window. The out-of-hours work is desk-based. In comparison with a supermarket with deliveries, operating from 6am – 11pm, it is a significantly quieter operation.