

Pediatric MRI

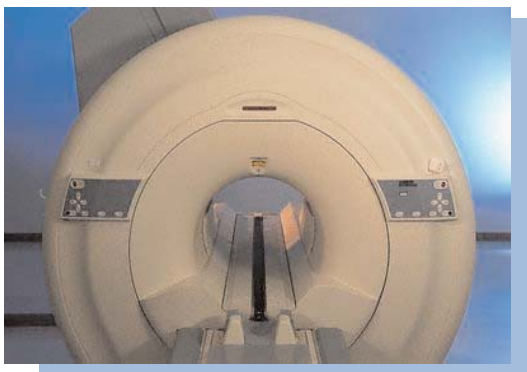
Whole-Body Screening for Children with Cancer

A Study to Improve Imaging Tests for Children with Cancer

Your child may be able to participate in this study if he or she has a type of cancer that may spread to other areas of the body.

The standard imaging tests used to find out if cancer has spread, such as computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), can take a long time, are very expensive, and may require medication to make a child sleepy. Doctors want to find out if a fast, whole-body MRI can give them accurate information about the extent of your child's disease so that in the future this single scan might replace the other longer scans.

If you choose to have your child participate in this study, a whole-body MRI will be performed in addition to the treatments and tests prescribed by his or her doctor. At some institutions a positron emission tomography (PET) scan will also be performed.



A total of 226 children from approximately 20 different institutions will be entered on the study. Your child's participation in this study is entirely voluntary.



The American College of Radiology Imaging Network, known as ACRIN, is a national cancer research organization sponsored and funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). It is made up of investigators at over 100 leading medical facilities located in North America and several international locations.

The goal of ACRIN is to improve the health, longevity and quality of life of cancer patients by conducting clinical trials that evaluate diagnostic imaging and image-guided treatment procedures.

- [See next page for more information about this study.](#)
- [Click here for a list of participating sites.](#)

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Frequently Asked Questions

Who can join this study?

Your child may be eligible for this study if he or she has cancer that may spread to other parts of the body. Children with cancers such as Ewing's sarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, neuroblastoma, Hodgkin's disease, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma may be able to join this study.

Who cannot participate?

Adults over 21 years of age and children who have cancers other than those listed above, or who previously had cancer, cannot participate in this study.

What if I choose to enroll my child in the study?

In addition to the standard tests used to see if the cancer has spread, your child will have a whole-body MRI and at some institutions a PET scan.

How long will the study last?

The results of the MRI and PET scans will be reported to your child's doctor and your child will continue to receive the treatments and tests recommended by his or her doctor. Follow-up information on your child will be reported to the study coordinators for six months. Also, information about your child's health may be collected each year for up to three years.

What is a whole-body MRI?

An MRI uses a large magnet, radio waves, and computers to produce pictures of the inside of the body. The technology uses no x-ray radiation. For a standard MRI your child is given an injection of a special contrast material that helps the radiologist locate areas of interest. For a whole-body MRI no contrast material is used.

During the exam, your child will need to lie very still on an exam table that slides into a circular tunnel that is open on both ends. Your child will hear loud banging noises created by the internal workings of the magnet. Earplugs or headphones to listen to music may be given to your child to help him or her relax. The whole-body MRI exam takes about 15 - 30 minutes. If your child cannot lie still for the MRI exam, he or she may need sedation. The study team can give you information about sedation.

What is a PET scan?

Positron emission tomography (PET) is a specialized imaging scan using radiation from an injection of a small amount of radioactive sugar. The radiation exposure is very small.

For this scan, your child will receive the radioactive sugar through a standard i.v. line inserted in a vein and then will need to rest quietly for approximately 45 minutes. Your child will then lie down on the table of the PET scanner, and pictures of the body will be obtained depending upon your child's age and type of cancer. These pictures will take approximately one hour, and your child will need to lie as still as possible during this time. The whole PET examination will take about two hours. Not all institutions participating in this study will prescribe a PET scan.

What if my child cannot lie still?

If you think that your child cannot lie very still for either the MRI or PET exams, the study doctors or nurses can give you information about medication to make your child sleepy.

ACRIN Study 6660: Whole-Body MRI in the Evaluation of Pediatric Malignancies

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