

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MRI SCANS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to MRI scans.

Question:

1. For the calendar year of 2025, please could you tell me how many individual MRI examinations were performed overall?

Answer:

TOTAL MRIs	46,169
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Question:

2. For the calendar year of 2025, please could you give a breakdown of the individual MRI examinations performed into body part/area? For instance, how many brain scans, spine scans etc. I am happy with whichever body part description is input in the PACS system.

Answer:

Order Item	Quantity
Cardiac MRI Perfusion Study	5<
MRA Aorta Abdominal	5<
MRA Aorta Thoracic	44
MRA Aorta Whole	38
MRA Carotids	18
MRA Carotids With Gadolinium	6
MRA Circle of Willis	439
MRA Circle of Willis With and Without Gadolinium	19
MRA Circle of Willis With Gadolinium	6
MRA Head	8
MRA Head with Gadolinium	6

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 Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
 Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board



MRA Lower Limbs	11
MRA Pelvis	29
MRA Renal/Visceral	13
MRA Upper Limb Lt	5<
MRA Visceral	5<
MRCP	2694
MRCP with Gadolinium	5<
MRI Abdomen	445
MRI Abdomen and Pelvis	8
MRI Abdomen and Pelvis with Gadolinium	19
MRI Abdomen With Gadolinium	259
MRI Adrenals	5<
MRI Ankle Lt	224
MRI Ankle With Gadolinium Lt	39
MRI Ankle With Gadolinium Rt	39
MRI Ankle Both	6
MRI Ankle Rt	233
MRI Ankle With Gadolinium Both	13
MRI Arthrogram Elbow Rt	5<
MRI Arthrogram Hip Rt	5<
MRI Arthrogram Shoulder Lt	27
MRI Arthrogram Shoulder Rt	25
MRI Axilla Lt	14
MRI Axilla Rt	10
MRI Axilla With Gadolinium Lt	5<
MRI Axilla With Gadolinium Rt	5<
MRI Brachial Plexus	81
MRI Brachial Plexus With Gadolinium	15
MRI Brain With and Without Gadolinium	9
MRI Breasts	11
MRI Breasts With Gadolinium	515
MRI Calcaeneum Rt	5<
MRI Cardiac Myocardial Viability	192
MRI Clavicle Lt	6
MRI Clavicle Rt	19
MRI Cranio-Facial	5<
MRI Cranio-Facial With Gadolinium	5<

MRI defaecating proctogram	118
MRI Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) Head	5<
MRI Elbow Lt	76
MRI Elbow Rt	81
MRI Elbow With Gadolinium Lt	5<
MRI Elbow With Gadolinium Rt	5<
MRI Femur (Thigh) Both	50
MRI Femur (Thigh) Lt	118
MRI Femur (Thigh) Rt	127
MRI Femur (Thigh) With Gadolinium Lt	10
MRI Femur (Thigh) With Gadolinium Rt	15
MRI Fingers Lt	6
MRI Fingers Rt	6
MRI Foot Both	5<
MRI Foot Lt	87
MRI Foot Rt	108
MRI Foot With Gadolinium Both	177
MRI Foot With Gadolinium Lt	11
MRI Foot With Gadolinium Rt	19
MRI Forearm Lt	24
MRI Forearm Rt	34
MRI Forearm With Gadolinium Rt	5<
MRI Hand Both	10
MRI Hand Lt	30
MRI Hand Rt	39
MRI Hand With Gadolinium Both	549
MRI Hand With Gadolinium Lt	13
MRI Hand With Gadolinium Rt	73
MRI Head	7357
MRI Head Brain Perfusion Study	108
MRI Head Functional	25
MRI Head With Gadolinium	459
MRI Head With/without Gadolinium	2207
MRI Heart	249
MRI Hip Both	11
MRI Hip Lt	188
MRI Hip Lt with Gadolinium	5<

MRI Hip Rt	221
MRI Hip Rt with Gadolinium	5<
MRI Hip with Gadolinium Both	5<
MRI Hips + Gadolinium	5<
MRI Horners Syndrome	11
MRI IAM	1203
MRI IAM With Gadolinium	127
MRI Knee Both	26
MRI Knee Lt	1291
MRI Knee Lt with Gadolinium	26
MRI Knee Rt	1314
MRI Knee Rt with Gadolinium	24
MRI Knee with Gadolinium Both	24
MRI Liver With Gadolinium	372
MRI Liver With Hepatobiliary Contrast	517
MRI Liver/Spleen	143
MRI Liver/Spleen with contrast	8
MRI Lower Leg Both	19
MRI Lower Leg Lt	101
MRI Lower Leg Rt	92
MRI Lower Leg with Gadolinium Both	5<
MRI Lower Limb Both	25
MRI Neck	158
MRI Neck With Gadolinium	605
MRI Orbits	169
MRI Orbits with Gadolinium	242
MRI Pancreas	19
MRI Parotid	8
MRI Pelvis	1053
MRI Pelvis Gynaecological	990
MRI Pelvis Gynaecological with Gadolinium	265
MRI Pelvis Hips	83
MRI Pelvis Obstetric	18
MRI Pelvis Prostate	109
MRI Pelvis Rectum	499
MRI Pelvis SIJs	729
MRI Pelvis with Gadolinium	228

MRI Penis	24
MRI Pituitary	46
MRI Pituitary With and Without Gadolinium	470
MRI Pituitary with Gadolinium	98
MRI Prostate with contrast	2567
MRI Renal	5<
MRI Salivary Gland	5<
MRI Salivary Gland With Gadolinium	10
MRI Shoulder Lt	423
MRI Shoulder Lt with Gadolinium	17
MRI Shoulder Rt	494
MRI Shoulder Rt with Gadolinium	17
MRI Shoulders	5<
MRI Sinuses	8
MRI Sinuses with Gadolinium	46
MRI Small Bowel Study	802
MRI Soft Tissue Neck	22
MRI Spectroscopy	5<
MRI Spine Brachial Plexus	26
MRI Spine Cervical	1446
MRI Spine Cervical With Gadolinium	97
MRI Spine Cervical/Thoracic	174
MRI Spine Lumbar/Sacral	5713
MRI Spine Lumbar/Sacral With Gadolinium	214
MRI Spine Thoracic	152
MRI Spine Thoracic With Gadolinium	46
MRI Spine Thoracic/Lumbar	150
MRI Spine Whole	3034
MRI Spine Whole With Gadolinium	471
MRI Sternoclavicular Joint	35
MRI Temporo-Mandibular Joints	119
MRI Thorax	170
MRI Thorax With Gadolinium	37
MRI Thyroid	5<
MRI Tib and Fib (Lower Leg) With Gd Lt	7
MRI Tib and Fib (Lower Leg) With Gd Rt	5<
MRI Tongue With Gadolinium	5<



MRI Upper Arm Lt	45
MRI Upper Arm Rt	50
MRI Upper Arm With Gadolinium Lt	5<
MRI Upper Arm With Gadolinium Rt	5<
MRI Urogram	5<
MRI Whole body	53
MRI Wrist Lt	129
MRI Wrist Rt	128
MRI Wrist With Gadolinium Both	5<
MRI Wrist With Gadolinium Lt	12
MRI Wrist With Gadolinium Rt	15
MRV Cerebral Veins	5<
MRV Cranial	23
MRV Inferior Vena Cava	5<
MRV Lower Limbs	7
MRV Upper Limb Rt	5<
MRV Venogram	32
Total	46,169

Question:

3. As of the start of 2026, what would the waiting time be (in weeks) for a routine MRI scan (for example how long would a patient have to wait if they were referred for a routine MRI scan of their knee)?

Answer:

MRI Waiting Time (weeks)	17.8
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Question:

4. How much money was paid to private companies during the calendar year 2025 for the outsourcing of MRI either to mobile MRI units, private hospitals or private companies staffing hospital scanners to scan NHS patients?

Answer:

Edinburgh University	Stroke service = £88,368, MRI prostate scans = £114,000
Nuffield:	Cardiac MRI's = £9600
Inhealth:	4 x mobile MRI vans - MCH = £563,093.75, WGH (x 2 vans) = £710,796.13, RIE = £35,678.10



Question:

5. From question 4 which companies were used and how many patients were scanned?

Answer:

Companies listed in response to Q4.

Total patients	10,473
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I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive