## Medicare MRI Guidelines for GP referrals

### Item | Description - Adults (16 years of age and older)
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63551 | MRI Head
• Unexplained seizure
• Unexplained headache where significant pathology is suspected
63560 | MRI Knee
• Inability to extend the knee suggesting the possibility of an acute meniscal tear
• Clinical findings suggest acute anterior cruciate ligament tear
63554 | MRI Cervical Spine
• Cervical radiculopathy
63557 | MRI Cervical Spine
• Cervical spine trauma

### Item | Description - Children (under 16 years of age)
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63507 | MRI Head
• Unexplained seizure
• Unexplained headache where significant pathology is suspected
• Paranasal sinus pathology which has not responded to conservative therapy
63510 | MRI Spine
• Significant trauma
• Unexplained neck or back pain with associated neurological signs
• Unexplained back pain where significant pathology is suspected
*Medicare stipulates that an x-ray examination must be performed prior to MRI*
63513 | MRI Knee
• Internal joint derangement
*Medicare stipulates that an x-ray examination must be performed prior to MRI*
63516 | MRI Hip
• Suspected septic arthritis
• Suspected slipped capital femoral epiphysis
• Suspected Perthes’ disease
*Medicare stipulates that an x-ray examination must be performed prior to MRI*
63519 | MRI Elbow
• Significant fracture or avulsion injury is suspected that will change management
*Medicare stipulates that an x-ray examination must be performed prior to MRI*
63522 | MRI Wrist
• Suspected scaphoid fracture
*Medicare stipulates that an x-ray examination must be performed prior to MRI*