

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING CONTRAST AGENTS (GADOLINIUM)

(MRI investigation)

Intravenous injection of gadolinium-containing magnetic resonance imaging contrast agents has low renal toxicity. No cases of nephrogenic systemic fibrosis have been clearly identified with the gadolinium compounds being used today. Gadolinium is known to accumulate in certain parts of the brain, but its clinical significance is initially unclear.

- As a general rule, a single low-risk Gd contrast agent may be administered to a person with renal insufficiency, despite a clear decrease in eGFR (<30 ml/min/1.73 m²). Repeated doses of Gd contrast agent should be avoided if the eGFR is <30 ml/min/1.73 m².
- In severe renal insufficiency (eGFR <15 ml/min/1.73 m²), prophylactic haemodialysis following an examination with Gd contrast agent may be useful.
- A haemodialysis patient may have a magnetic resonance imaging examination with Gd contrast agent if the next haemodialysis is performed within one day. Peritoneal dialysis continues as usual.
- Low-risk gadolinium contrast agents are:
 - Dotarem
 - Gadovist
 - ProHance

Pregnancy

Gadolinium contrast agent should not be used during pregnancy unless clearly necessary due to the clinical condition.

Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding after the scan with gadolinium contrast agents is safe because the quantities secreted in breast milk are minuscule. Secretion stops completely within 24 hours.