Information form IRM

What is an IRM?
IRM means Medical Imaging by Magnetic resonance. It is a radiological technique allowing very precise images of the human body. It does not use X-ray. IRM is based on the water molecule’s magnetic properties. The machine uses an intense magnetic field created by an electromagnet.

IRM interest
It is a recent technique, very useful for studying joints, brain, and spinal chord. IRM is more and more used to explore others organs (liver, kidneys) and to observe arteries as well. IRM is painless, without carryover effect. However there are definite contraindications linked to the intense magnetic field:
- pacemaker
- some heart valves
- Metallic foreign bodies situated near the brain or eyes.

Examination progress
On arrival, you are invited to leave in a cabin all your metallic objects and clothes as indicated by the doctor. Then you will be escorted to the examination room. Then you will lie down on a bed, most often on the back. The bed will move through a ring. You will be left alone in the room; we will communicate with you through a mike. While the examination will go on, our team will watch over you and will see you from behind a window. The examination is painless and most often very noisy.
It can be necessary, in some cases, to make an injection in the course of the examination, mostly in the fold of the elbow.

What complication can arise?
Any intervention on the human body, even realized by competent team surrounding itself with maximal precautions, contains a risk of complication:
- The injection can provoke a nasty bruise without gravity. It will disappear in a few days.
- During the injection, a leak of the product can occur under the skin. This happens rarely and it is treated locally.
- Reactions of intolerance and allergy to the product of contrast used in IRM (Gadolinium) are exceptional.
Please answer the following questions:

Do you have a pacemaker?  yes □  no □

Have you had a heart intervention for a heart valve?  yes □  no □

Have you received metallic projectiles (metallic pieces, bullets, shrapnel pieces) even long time ago, particularly near the eyes?  yes □  no □

Have you been working with metals?  yes □  no □

Do you have metallic prosthesis other than dental prosthesis?  yes □  no □

Are you afraid of taking an elevator?  yes □  no □

Are you pregnant or is there a possibility you are pregnant?  yes □  no □

Are you breast-feeding?  yes □  no □

Do you wear a patch on the skin?  yes □  no □

Do you have a kidney failure?  yes □  no □
A few days before the IRM, if you have been prescribed a contrast product:

Order this contrast product to you chemist with the prescription.

Bring with you on the IRM day:

1. The contrast product if it has been prescribed
2. Your radiological file if you have one (scanner, IRM, X-rays)
3. This form filled and signed.

The examination day:

Come with an empty stomach if it has been asked to you. Don’t eat, drink or smoke in the previous six hours.

Mrs, Miss, Mister ……………………………………… has personally filled this form on the …………………………………… and given her/his agreement for this examination.

Do you agree to have an intravenous injection of contrast product if necessary? yes □ no □

Signature :

Signature of the legal authority (for minors) :