From the experts: Kids who have been in our research

“I liked the MRI because I could listen to music in the tube.”

“When I was in the MRI, I felt like a caterpillar in a cocoon.”

“Being in research can help other kids. I like that.”

Clinical Laboratory for Early Brain Injury Recovery

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Welcome to our lab!

MRI information brochure
What is MRI?

We want to take a picture of your brain. We do this using a machine called an MRI. MRI stands for Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Magnetic means that a magnet is used to take the picture, resonance means that the machine is vibrating when it takes the pictures, and imaging means that the machine can take pictures. Having an MRI doesn’t hurt and takes about an hour. After we are done we get a picture from the brain, as you can see on the picture on the right. We will use this picture to see how the parts of the brain the control movement look like in people with cerebral palsy.

What happens when I get an MRI?

The MRI is a small tube. You will fit inside the tube and will be safe when you are in the tube. Before you get the MRI, we will show you the machine and let you meet the people who work there. You can ask any question you have.

When we start the MRI, you will have to lay inside the big machine and hold still for about an hour. The machine makes loud noises that might bother you, but you will wear earplugs to protect your ears and you will be able to listen to music in earphones when you get in the MRI.

If you want you can get ready for your visit by practicing at home a little bit. We want you to know what kinds of noises the MRI machine makes. We will give you a CD that has some sounds from an MRI machine on it. You can listen to the CD so you will know what the MRI will sound like. If you want, you can also practice lying in a tube. We will let you take home a 'play tunnel' that is about the same size as the tube in the MRI machine.

Do you have any questions after reading this brochure? Don’t hesitate to contact us by calling 914-368-3160 or by email at braininjuryclinic@med.cornell.edu

We look forward to seeing you in our lab!