

1st February 2019

The Honourable Greg Hunt MP
Federal Minister for Health
GPO Box 6022
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Minister for Health	
6 FEB 2019	
Reply by <input type="checkbox"/> Minister <input type="checkbox"/> Chief of Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Adviser	Action <input type="checkbox"/> Response <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input type="checkbox"/> Information
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Dear Sir

I support the application by Sound Radiology for an MRI licence because of their expertise in performing MRI scans in children who would otherwise require a general anaesthetic to obtain a satisfactory scan. As a Paediatric Neurologist I frequently order MRI scans, for children with epilepsy and other neurological conditions. Unfortunately younger children require a general anaesthetic for an MRI head scan, as they are not able to lie still for the 30 minutes required to obtain satisfactory scans. Sound Radiology have a built in audio-visual distraction system, which has been successful for my patients in distracting the children sufficiently that satisfactory MRI head scans can be obtained, without the need for a general anaesthetic. This service has been provided for my patients in the 4 to 7 year old age group, and also in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, who would not otherwise cope with an MRI head scan in the waking state.

The advantage of performing an MRI scan in the waking state is that the child avoids potential complications of a general anaesthetic, avoids needing a hospital admission with the necessary costs of this, and avoids a long waiting list for the scan to be performed under general anaesthetic.

The feedback from parents whose children have had MRI scans through Sound Radiology has been very positive, especially as the scans were unable to be done at other radiology practices in Adelaide.

I understand that the audio-visual distraction technology used by Sound Radiology is not used by any of the other private radiology practices in South Australia, and is not used at the^{s47F} or^{s47F} either.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information about the benefits which this service can offer to children in the 4 to 7 year old age group, who require MRI head scans, as well as older children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely
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