

What Is FerriScan®?

FerriScan® is a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)-based technology for the non-invasive measurement of liver iron concentrations.

Key features of FerriScan®:

- *Fast – 10 minute scan time*
- *Non-invasive.*
- *Accurately measures liver iron level, at all iron levels.*
- *Can be used repeatedly.*
Liver iron measures are not affected by the presence of fibrosis.

Excess iron deposits in tissues of the body, particularly the liver, eventually causing tissue damage and organ failure. For patients affected with iron overload, accurate monitoring of the body iron burden is crucial to the management of their disease.

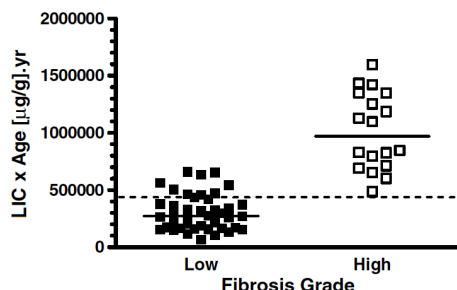
Blood markers such as serum ferritin are confounded by factors other than iron loading such as inflammation. Liver biopsy is an invasive procedure and involves uncertainties in results due to the irregular nature in which iron is stored in the liver. Gene testing for hereditary haemochromatosis provides information on likelihood but not level of iron loading.

Haemochromatosis

Disorders of iron metabolism are amongst the most common diseases in the world. Hereditary haemochromatosis is a condition where excess uptake of dietary iron leads to the accumulation of iron and affects 1 in 227 people of Northern European decent. For patients with haemochromatosis the treatment can be as simple as donating blood regularly to remove the extra iron.

High liver iron over a prolonged period causes liver damage which is a risk factor in hepatocellular carcinoma. FerriScan enables clinicians to measure LIC at diagnosis so that the risk of liver damage can be assessed.

The graph below demonstrates how liver iron concentration multiplied by the age at diagnosis is a good predictor of liver damage.



[Taken from Olynyk et al, Am J Gastroenterology 2005; 100: 837.]

Transfusional Iron Overload

Iron accumulates due to repeated blood transfusions in patients with blood disorders such as β -thalassaemia, sickle cell anaemia and myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). Drug therapy using an iron chelator is used to remove the excess iron.

FerriScan® enables clinicians to determine when chelation therapy should commence, how well it is working and adjust the therapy according to an accurate measurement of liver iron levels, minimizing the potential for organ damage.

FerriScan® is being used in various clinical trials investigating the effects of iron chelation in populations of patients who present with signs of iron overload due to repeated blood transfusions.

Regulatory Approved

FerriScan® is cleared for marketing by regulatory authorities in the USA (FDA), Canada (Health Canada), Australia (TGA), New Zealand (Medsafe), Europe and the UK (CE Mark).

The FerriScan® Process

The FerriScan® process involves four simple steps:



1. Patients are required to spend approximately 10 minutes in the MRI scanner. *No contrast agent is administered.*
2. Image data are transmitted electronically to a central laboratory for image analysis.
3. The FerriScan service uses a patented methodology for processing the MR images to generate an accurate liver iron concentration (LIC) result.
4. LIC reports are made available to the MRI centre within two working days.

Further Information

Please visit us at www.resonancehealth.com for further information or send an email to info@ferriscan.com

FerriScan is a service proudly delivered by: