

Pitt Research Discoveries

MRI Brainstorm Led to Nobel Prize

Paul Lauterbur, PhD (May 6, 1929 to March 27, 2007), won the Nobel Prize with Sir Peter Mansfield of the University of Nottingham in England for research that led to the development of MRI—a technology that uses a magnet to generate images of the inside of an object. MRI is widely used for diagnosing and understanding disease and is praised for its ability to generate clear pictures of soft-tissue organs such as the brain without surgery or radiation. While earning a doctorate degree in chemistry and performing research at Pitt, Lauterbur came up with the idea of finding a noninvasive method for observing people’s internal organs thanks to a brainstorm jotted down on a napkin at a New Kensington Big Boy restaurant.

Pitt
+
Me

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
WWW.PITTPPLUSME.ORG

@PittPlusMe  
#salkabration

Pitt **CTSI**
Clinical and Translational
Science Institute