

# Cerebrospinal fluid flow studies

[Cerebrospinal fluid flow](#) studies are performed using a variety of [MRI](#) techniques and are able to qualitatively assess and quantify pulsatile CSF flow. The most common technique used is time-resolved 2D [Phase contrast magnetic resonance imaging](#) with velocity encoding.

Note, when referring to CSF flow in the context of imaging we are referring to pulsatile to-and-fro flow due to vascular pulsations rather than bulk transport of CSF (the mechanism by which secreted CSF circulates through the CNS via the glymphatic pathway with absorption at arachnoid granulations). The latter is too slow to be easily assessed clinically.

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