



The popular medical diagnostic technique of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is based on the same principles as NMR, namely the flipping (i.e. resonance) of nuclear spins of H atoms by radio frequency irradiation when a patient is placed in a strong magnetic field. Magnetic field gradients are used to gain imaging information, and rotation of the gradient around the center of the object gives imaging in an entire plane (i.e. slice inside patient). In an MRI image, you are looking at individual slices that when stacked make up the three-dimensional image of relative amounts of H atoms, especially the H atoms from water and fat, in the different tissues.

