There are different kinds of medical images. We refer to each source of medical images as a modality.

We will study some in detail (X-ray, MRI, CT) while others will be mentioned briefly (PET, SPECT, US, MEG).

Each modelity results from a different phenomenon of physics, and offers doctors (radiologists) a different view of the patient. And each modality has its risks, costs, and benefits. All these factors have to be considered when choosing to image someone.