

CT and CTA ORDERING GUIDELINES

Visit <https://acsearch.acr.org/> for Quality & Safety Appropriateness Criteria. *The following information is for CT/CTA ordering guidance only*
Practitioners: Please contact Radiologist for questions regarding a specific patient and/or clinical signs/symptoms not listed: 707-445-8121 ext. 6143

For exams ordered with IV contrast please refer to the CT Contrast Screening Questions at the end of this document

Scheduler: “★” requires Radiologist Review Form unless exam was recommended in prior imaging report or ordered by local specialist.
Specify contrast request on order following this guide. If the requested use of contrast does not match the indication, then referring practitioner must discuss reasoning with Radiologist and a Radiologist Review form must be completed before scheduling.

Region of Concern	Body Part	Reason For Exam	Contrast		Ordering Procedure, Pre-Authorization	CPT Code		
			Oral Prep	IV				
CRANIAL	Head / Brain	Trauma TIA Bleed Memory Loss Hydrocephalus Altered mental status	Brain Injury Stroke Hemorrhage Confusion Dizziness	Headache CVA Chiari Shunt check Vertigo	No	No	CT Head without Contrast	70450
		Mass New Seizure Metastatic Staging	Intracranial infection Tumor	Vasculitis	No	Yes	CT Head With and Without Contrast	70470
	Temporal Bone (IAC)	Tinnitus Trauma Hearing loss –conductive or sensorineural Congenital abnormalities external, middle & inner ear	CSF leak Mastoiditis	Cholesteatoma Otitis-chronic	No	No	CT Temporal Bone Without Contrast	70480
		Mass of cerebellopontine angle & other post. fossa Schwannoma or Acoustic neuroma-when MRI not possible			No	Yes	CT Temporal Bone With Contrast	70481
FACIAL	Orbit	Trauma Graves disease	Fracture Bony abnormality	Foreign body	No	No	CT Orbits Without Contrast	70480
		Mass Cellulitis Exophthalmos	Tumor Retinoblastoma Optic Nerve & Visual pathways	Infection Varix	No	Yes	CT Orbits With Contrast	70481
	Sinus	Inflammatory disease- e.g. chronic sinus disease Foreign Body Fungal sinusitis	Congenital disorders Nasal stenosis	Trauma	No	No	CT Sinus Without Contrast	70486
		ENT Pre-Surgical planning for navigation			No	No	CT Sinus Without Contrast, ENT Navigation	70486
	Maxillofacial (Frontal sinus to mandible)	Bony abnormality Trauma - facial bone evaluation including mandible	TMJ eval.	Foreign body	No	No	CT Maxillofacial Without Contrast	70486
		Mass Swelling	Tumor Infection	Cellulitis	No	Yes	CT Maxillofacial With Contrast	70487

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			Oral Prep	IV				
NECK (soft tissue) & OROPHARYNX	Neck, Thyroid, Parathyroid	Mass Cancer Staging Lymphadenopathy Brachial plexus disorders Thyroid or Parathyroid disorders e.g. adenoma, hyperplasia, hyperparathyroidism, hyperplasia	Tumor Metastases Dysphagia	Infection Cyst	No	Yes	CT Soft Tissue Neck With Contrast (specify region of interest on order)	70491
		Vocal cord paralysis		No	Yes	CT Soft Tissue Neck With Contrast	70491	
	Parotid, Salivary, Submandibular	Mass Metastases	Tumor Cyst	Infection	No	Yes	CT Soft Tissue Neck With Contrast (specify region of interest on order)	70491
		Stone		No	Yes	CT Soft Tissue Neck With and Without Contrast (specify region of interest on order)	70492	
	Pharynx, Larynx, Trachea	Mass Cancer Staging Hoarseness Inflammatory disease	Tumor Metastases Dysphagia	Trauma Cyst Stenosis	No	Yes	CT Soft Tissue Neck with Contrast (specify region of interest on order)	70491
CHEST THORAX	General Chest	Mass Cancer Staging Dyspnea Pleural effusion Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) Evaluation- abnormalities on chest X-ray Evaluation- thoracic vascular abnormalities Evaluation- suspected occult thoracic pathology Eval.- suspected congenital thoracic anomalies Eval.- pulmonary parenchymal & airway disease	Tumor Metastases Emphysema Sarcoidosis	Infection Trauma Empyema	No	Yes	CT Chest With Contrast	71260
		Lung Nodule Follow-up Eval.- suspected congenital thoracic anomalies		Empyema	No	No	CT Chest Without Contrast	71250
	High Resolution Chest	Interstitial lung disease Emphysema Pulmonary fibrosis Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)	Diffuse lung disease Bronchiectasis Sarcoidosis	No	No	CT Chest Without Contrast, High Resolution	71250	

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			Oral Prep	IV					
ABDOMEN	Liver	Acute GI bleed	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With and Without Contrast, Dual Phase	74170			
		Mass Hemangioma Cholangiocarcinoma Abnormal liver functions Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) Pre-transplantation evaluation	Tumor Cirrhosis Hepatoma Hepatitis Jaundice Hemochromatosis	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With and Without Contrast, Liver Triple Phase	74170		
		Transcatheter arterial chemoembolization(TACE) Liver post embolization	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With and Without Contrast, Liver Four Phase	74170			
	Spleen	Trauma	Infarct	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With Contrast, Spleen	74160		
		Mass	Tumor	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With and Without Contrast, Spleen	74170		
	Renal	Mass Cyst	Tumor	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With and Without Contrast, Renal	74170		
	Adrenal	Cushing syndrome Adrenal hyperplasia	Mass Addison's disease	Tumor	No	Yes	CT Abdomen With and Without Contrast, Adrenal	74170	
	Pancreas	Mass Pancreatitis	Tumor	Cyst	Yes	Yes	CT Abdomen With Contrast, Pancreas	74160	
	ABDOMEN And PELVIS	General Abdomen & Pelvis	Mass Abdomen/Pelvic pain Nausea & Vomiting Cancer Staging Appendicitis Possible abdominal free air Lower right quadrant tenderness	Tumor Distention Metastases Diverticulitis	Trauma Hernia Abscess Weight Loss Obstruction Hematoma	Yes	Yes	CT Abdomen and Pelvis With Contrast	74177
		Stone Study KUB	Hematuria Renal/Kidney stone, calculi	Flank pain		No	No	CT Abdomen and Pelvis Without Contrast, Stone Study	74176
Urogram		Mass Bladder Cancer Follow-up renal, urinary surgery or renal stones Recurrent urinary tract infection (UTI)	Tumor Transitional cell carcinoma	Hematuria	No	Yes	CT Abdomen and Pelvis With and Without Contrast, Urogram	74178	
Enterography		Crohn's disease Inflammatory disease (IBD) adhesions, obstructions	Ulcerative Colitis		Yes	Yes	CT Abdomen and Pelvis With Contrast, Enterography	74177	
	Obscure GI bleed tumors	Small bowel: masses unexplained pain				CT Abdomen and Pelvis Without & With Contrast, Enterography	74178		

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PELVIS	Pelvis	Inguinal hernia Cyst Infection Abscess- buttock, perirectal, pelvic Mass-groin, testicular, pelvic, rectal Lower right quadrant tenderness Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) Evaluation- abnormalities on ultrasound	Yes	Yes	CT Pelvis With Contrast	72193
	Pelvis (MSK Bony)	Trauma Injury Fracture Dislocation Bony Abnormality	No	No	CT Pelvis Without Contrast	72192
	Cystogram	Bladder tumor, fistula, injury	No	Retro-grade via urinary cath	CT Pelvis Without and With Contrast via catheter	72192
	Seed Implant	Estimate seed number and distribution post implantation i.e. prostate	No	No	CT Pelvis Without Contrast, Seed Implant	72192
UPPER and LOWER EXTREMITIES	Upper Shoulder Humerus Elbow Radius/Ulna Wrist Hand	Trauma Injury Fracture Pain Arthralgia Fusion Malunion Bony Abnormality	No	No	CT Upper Extremity Without Contrast, (specify region of interest on order)	73200
		Mass Tumor Metastases Cancer Inflammation Infection	No	Yes	CT Upper Extremity With Contrast, (specify region of interest on order)	73201
	Lower Hip Femur Knee Tibia/fibula Ankle Foot	Trauma Injury Fracture Pain Arthralgia Fusion Malunion Pre-Surgical Implant Bony Abnormality	No	No	CT Lower Extremity Without Contrast, (specify region of interest on order)	73700
		Mass Tumor Metastases Cancer Inflammation Infection	No	Yes	CT Lower Extremity With Contrast, (specify region of interest on order)	73701
		*When MR contraindicated	No	Intra-Articular Injection in X-Ray or US.	CT Upper Extremity With Contrast, (specify region of interest on order)	73201
Pain Injury Inflammation Evaluation of labrum, ligament pathology of joint.	CT Lower Extremity With Contrast, (specify region of interest on order)	73701				
CT ARTHOGRAM *Ordered with Intra-articular Injection in X-Ray or Ultrasound.	Shoulder Elbow Wrist Hip Knee					

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SPINE	Cervical (C1 – C7)	Trauma Inflammation Degenerative changes	Injury Radiculopathy	Fracture Stenosis Bone lesion	No	No	CT Cervical Spine Without Contrast	72125	
		Mass Cancer	Tumor Metastases	Infection	No	Yes	CT Cervical Spine With Contrast	72126	
	Thoracic (T1 - T12)	Trauma Inflammation Degenerative changes	Injury Radiculopathy	Fracture Stenosis Bone lesion	No	No	CT Thoracic Spine Without Contrast	72128	
		Mass Cancer	Tumor Metastases	Infection	No	Yes	CT Thoracic Spine With Contrast	72129	
	Lumbosacral (T12 –sacrum)	Trauma Inflammation Bone lesion changes	Injury Radiculopathy Tarlov cyst	Fracture Stenosis Degenerative changes	No	No	CT Lumbar Spine Without Contrast	72131	
		Mass Cancer	Tumor Metastases	Infection Plexopathy	No	Yes	CT Lumbar Spine With Contrast	72132	
	Sacro- coccygeal (S1 - coccyx)	Trauma Inflammation Bone lesion changes	Injury Radiculopathy Tarlov cyst	Fracture Stenosis Degenerative changes	No	No	CT Pelvis Without Contrast, Sacrum	72192	
		Mass Cancer	Tumor Metastases	Infection Plexopathy	No	Yes	CT Pelvis With Contrast, Sacrum	72193	
	SPINE- POST MYELOGRAM *Ordered with Intra- thecal Injection in X-Ray	Cervical	Trauma Radiculopathy Degenerative changes	Injury Pre and post-surgical	Stenosis	No	Intra- Thecal Injection in X-ray	CT Cervical Spine With Contrast	72126
		Thoracic						CT Thoracic Spine With Contrast	72129
Lumbar		CT Lumbar Spine With Contrast						72132	

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HEART CARDIAC <u>*Cardiologist Must Order*</u>	Calcium Score	Risk assessment for coronary artery disease (CAD) Chest pain in at risk patient Coronary Anomaly	No	No	CT Heart Without Contrast, Coronary Calcium Score	75571
	CTA Heart Coronary Arteries, Structure & Morphology	Definition of anatomy prior to surgery or ablation Anomalous coronary artery Ischemic heart disease Chest pain in low to intermediate risk patient Coronary heart disease (CAD) Evaluation of coronary arteries in patients with new onset heart failure to assess etiology. Patency of bypass grafts	No	Yes	<u>CTA</u> Heart With Contrast, Coronary Arteries with Calcium Score <i>(if indicated)</i>	75574
	CT Cardiac Structure & Morphology	Congenital Heart Disease	No	Yes	CT Heart With Contrast with Calcium Score <i>(if indicated)</i> Congenital Heart Disease,	75573
	CT Cardiac Structure & Morphology	Assessment of anomalies of great vessels, cardiac chambers and valves. Evaluation of cardiac mass (suspected tumor or thrombus) Evaluation of pericardial mass, constrictive pericarditis or complications of cardiac surgery.	No	Yes	CT Heart With Contrast, Structure And Morphology with Calcium Score <i>(if indicated)</i>	75572

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			Oral Prep	IV			
CT Angiography (CTA)	CTA Brain	Intracranial aneurysm Subarachnoid hemorrhage Vascular bypass surgery Vertebrobasilar insufficiency Arteriovenous malformation (AVM)	CVA Stenosis Dissection	No	Yes	CT Angiography Head With Contrast, including Non Contrast	70496
	CTA Neck (Carotid)	Carotid abnormality Vertebral vascular abnormality Pulmonic stenosis, obstruction Vascular Tumor, lesion Injury: penetrating, blunt, vascular injury to neck	CVA Bruit Aneurysm Dissection	No	Yes	CT Angiography Neck With Contrast, including Non Contrast	70498
	CTA Chest *chest only	Aortic stenosis Aortic regurgitation Atherosclerotic occlusive disease Congenital vascular anomalies Thoracic aortic aneurysm suspected.	Thoracic trauma Aortic coarctation	No	Yes	CT Angiography Chest With Contrast	71275
	CTA Chest, Pulmonary Embolus (PE)	Pulmonary embolism (PE) Shortness of Breath Pleuritic Chest pain Pulmonary hypertension	Hypoxia Elevated D-dimer Dyspnea	No	Yes	CT Angiography Chest With Contrast, PE *specify “PE Study”	71275
	CTA Chest, Thoracic Dissection	Chest pain Thoracic aortic dissection suspected or follow-up.	Hypertension Back pain	No	Yes	CT Angiography Chest With Contrast including Non Contrast, Dissection	71275
	CTA Chest, Abdomen & Pelvis, Aortic Dissection	Chest pain Abdominal pain Thoraco-abdominal aortic dissection suspected or follow-up	Hypertension Back pain	No	Yes	CT Angiography Chest & CTA Abdomen/Pelvis With Contrast including Non Contrast, Dissection.	71275, 74174
	CTA Chest Abdomen & Pelvis, Aortic Stent Repair	Post-surgical endographic repair of thoraco-abdominal aortic aneurysm with no previous CTA study Post-surgical endographic repair of thoraco-abdominal aortic aneurysm with suspected or known endoleak		No	Yes	CT Angiography Chest & CTA Abdomen/ Pelvis With Contrast including Non Contrast, Stent Repair	71275, 74174

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CT Angiography (CTA)	CTA Chest, Abdomen & Pelvis, Aortic Stent Planning	Pre thoracic aortic stent graft planning. Takayasu arteritis.	No	Yes	CT Angiography Chest & CTA Abdomen/Pelvis With Contrast, Stent Plan	71275, 74174
	CTA Abdomen & Pelvis	Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) suspected or known Acute or Chronic mesenteric ischemia (<i>celiac or SMA stenosis</i>) Abdominal pain Back pain Common femoral aneurysm	No	Yes	CT Angiography Abdomen/Pelvis With Contrast	74174
	CTA Abdomen & Pelvis	Abdominal aortic aneurysm <i>pre stent-graft planning</i> Abdominal aortic stent graft follow-up. Aorta-femoral bypass graft evaluation	No	Yes	CT Angiography Abdomen/Pelvis With Contrast including Non Contrast	74174
	CTA Abdomen	Celiac, SMA, hepatic, gastric or GDA aneurysm Renal aneurysm Renal vein thrombosis Renal artery stenosis	No	Yes	CT Angiography Abdomen With Contrast	74175
	CTA Abdomen with Runoff	Peripheral Vascular Disease (PVD) Ischemic ulcer Absent peripheral pulse Abnormal ankle-brachial index Lower extremity thrombo-embolism. Femoro-popliteal bypass graft evaluation	No	Yes	CT Angiography Abdomen With Runoff	75635
	CTA Upper Extremity	Upper extremity arterial injury Upper extremity thrombo-embolism	No	Yes	CT Angiography Upper Extremity With contrast	73206
	CTA Lower Extremity	Lower extremity arterial injury Lower extremity vascular malformation	No	Yes	CT Angiography Lower Extremity With contrast	73706

If the patient will receive IV contrast, the following information is required at the time of order

Over 60 years: yes no Taking Glucophage/Glucoavance(Metformin): yes no
Diabetic: yes no Heart Disease / CHF: yes no History of Kidney Cancer: yes no
Multiple Myeloma: yes no History of (circle): Kidney Dysfunction/Disease/Transplant/Single Kidney: yes no

If yes to any of the above, the patient will need a Creatinine with eGFR performed within 30 days of exam and no later than 48hrs prior to exam. If scheduled less than 48hrs, order labs as STAT.

Allergic to Iodinated Contrast: yes * no *if yes, has premedication been given: yes no
Pregnant: yes no Breastfeeding: yes no
Age: _____ Weight: _____ Creatinine: _____ eGFR: _____ Date: _____