

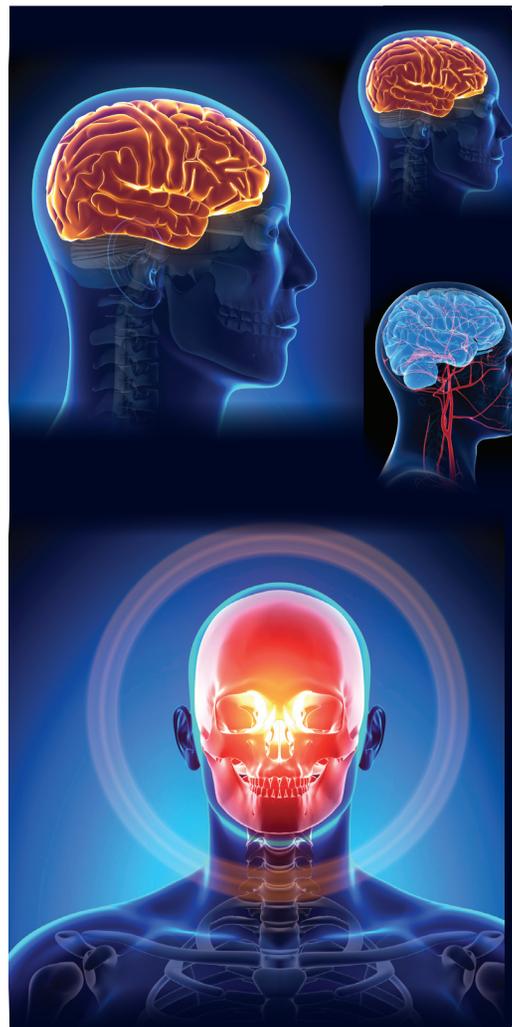
## COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY (CT) SCANS

### Exam Reference / Protocol Guidelines

For additional information on CT and other radiologic exams, please consult the American College of Radiology's ACR Appropriateness Criteria® document found at [www.ACR.org](http://www.ACR.org).

#### AREA OF INTEREST

### HEAD



AREA OF INTEREST	BODY PART EXAM	REASON FOR EXAM	ORAL CONTRAST	IV CONTRAST	PROCEDURES TO PRE-CERT	CODES	
HEAD	BRAIN	Bleed, trauma, headaches	NO	NO	CT Brain without	<b>70450</b>	
		Mass, tumor, infection, melanoma, HIV, meningioma, mets staging	NO	YES	CT Brain with and without	<b>70470</b>	
	CTA HEAD	Aneurysm	NO	YES	CTA Head	<b>70496</b>	
	CTA NECK	Carotid Occlusion	NO	YES	CTA Neck	<b>70498</b>	
	ORBITS	Trauma, fracture, foreign body	NO	NO	CT Orbits without	<b>70480</b>	
		Mass, abcess, pain, swelling, Graves disease, cellulitis	NO	YES	CT Orbits with	<b>70481</b>	
	SINUS	Sinusitis, mass, pain, polyps, deviated septum, congestion, foreign body	NO	NO	CT Sinus without	<b>70486</b>	
	FACE	Trauma, fracture	NO	NO	CT Maxillofacial	<b>70486</b>	
	TEMPORAL BONES	Cholestatoma, tinnitus, congenital hearing loss	NO	NO	CT Temporal Bones without	<b>70480</b>	
	SOFT TISSUE NECK	Palpable neck mass, stone, neoplasm	Lymphoma, lymphadenopathy	NO	YES	CT Neck with	<b>70492</b>
			Lymphoma, lymphadenopathy	NO	YES	CT Neck with	<b>70492</b>
		Parotid swelling, vocal chord paralysis	NO	NO	CT Neck without	<b>70490</b>	

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### AREA OF INTEREST ABDOMEN

AREA OF INTEREST	BODY PART EXAM	REASON FOR EXAM	ORAL CONTRAST	IV CONTRAST	PROCEDURES TO PRE-CERT	CODES
	ABDOMEN: <i>from lung base to illiac crest</i>	Pain	YES	NO	CT Abdomen Pelvis without	<b>74176</b>
	PELVIS: <i>from iliac crest to pubis</i>	Pain, fracture, arthritis, mets, bone lesion Soft tissue mass, tumor, abcess, infection, cellulitis	NO YES	NO YES	CT Pelvis without CT Pelvis with	<b>72192</b> <b>72193</b>
	ABDOMEN AND PELVIS GENERAL: <i>from lung base to pubis</i>	Mass, hernia, diverticulitis, appendicitis, restaging CA, nausea, vomiting	YES	YES	CT Abdomen Pelvic with	<b>74178</b>
	ABDOMEN/ PELVIS: <i>Enterography</i>	Crohn's disease, small bowel obstruction	YES <i>Arrive 1 hour prior to appt. time, patient must drink oral contrast in the office</i>	YES	<b>35 years of age or older:</b> Enterography with	<b>74178</b>
					<b>35 years of age or younger:</b>	<b>74176</b>
	LIVER	Increase LFTs, RUQ pain, jaundice, liver cancer, cirrhosis, hepatoma, hemangioma, hepatitis	YES	YES	CT Abdomen with and without CT Pelvis with	<b>74178</b>

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### AREA OF INTEREST RENAL

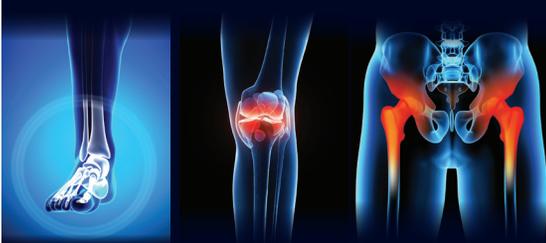


AREA OF INTEREST	BODY PART EXAM	REASON FOR EXAM	ORAL CONTRAST	IV CONTRAST	PROCEDURES TO PRE-CERT	CODES
RENAL	RENAL	Renal stone	NO	NO	CT Abdomen without Pelvis without	<b>74176</b>
		Mass	NO	YES	CT Abdomen with and without CT Pelvis with	<b>74178</b>
URINARY SYSTEM		Hematuria	NO	YES	CT Urogram with and without /w3D	<b>74178</b>
	<b>WITH 3D</b>					<b>76377</b>
CTA ABDOMEN		AAA, renal artery stenosis, dissection, hypertension	NO	YES	CTA Abdomen	<b>74175</b>
CTA ABDOMEN AND PELVIS		AAA, renal artery stenosis, dissection, hypertension	NO	YES	CTA Abdomen and Pelvis	<b>74174</b>
CTA RUNOFF		(PAD) Peripheral Artery Disease	NO	YES	CTA Abdomen Aorta Runoff	<b>75635</b>
CHEST		Nodule, opacities seen	NO	NO	CT Chest without	<b>71250</b>
		Hilar adenopathy, lung cancer	NO	YES	CT Chest with	<b>71260</b>
CTA CHEST		Pulmonary embolism Aneurysm	NO	YES	CTA Chest	<b>71275</b>
HIGH RESOLUTION		Interstitial lung disease	NO	NO	CT Chest high resolution without	<b>70490</b>

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### AREA OF INTEREST EXTREMITIES

AREA OF INTEREST	BODY PART EXAM	REASON FOR EXAM	ORAL CONTRAST	IV CONTRAST	PROCEDURES TO PRE-CERT	CODES
	UPPER EXTREMITIES: <i>hand, wrist, elbow, forearm, humerus, shoulder</i>	Pain, arthritis, fracture, fusion, malunion	NO	NO	CT Upper Extremity without contrast	<b>73200</b>
		Infection, tumor, mass, cancer, mets (MRI is more sensitive)	NO	YES	CT Upper Extremity with contrast	<b>73201</b>
	LOWER EXTREMITIES: <i>foot, ankle, knee, hip, tibia, fibula, femur</i>	Pain, arthritis, fracture, fusion, malunion	NO	NO	CT Lower Extremity without contrast	<b>73700</b>
		Infection, tumor, mass, cancer, mets (MRI is more sensitive)	NO	YES	CT Lower Extremity with contrast	<b>73701</b>
	CERVICAL SPINE	Immediate Post-op	NO	YES	CT Cervical Spine with	<b>72126</b>
		Neck pain, fracture, eval hardware	NO	NO	CT Cervical Spine without	<b>72125</b>
	THORACIC SPINE	Immediate Post-op	NO	YES	CT Thoracic Spine with	<b>72129</b>
		Pain, fracture, eval hardware	NO	NO	CT Thoracic Spine without	<b>72128</b>
	LUMBAR SPINE	Immediate Post-op	NO	YES	CT Lumbar Spine with	<b>72132</b>
		Pain, fracture, eval hardware	NO	NO	CT Lumbar Spine without	<b>72131</b>

## Reducing the Risk of Contrast Induced Nephrotoxicity

Some patients receiving intravenous contrast require bloodwork prior to contrast injection

### THE FOLLOWING PATIENTS SHOULD HAVE A RECENT EGFR (Estimated Glomular Filtration Rate):

- History of renal disease - (\*note - kidney stones/renal cysts do not require eGFR)
  - Dialysis
  - Kidney surgery
  - Kidney transplant
  - Kidney cancer
  - Single kidney

### ACCEPTABLE BLOOD WORK GUIDELINES:

- eGFR should be within 90 days of imaging
- eGFR should be within 30 days if the patient had a recent hospitalization

### DOSING GUIDELINES:

- eGFR > 45 - Technologists can proceed with the contrast injection
- eGFR < 30 - Radiologist should speak with the ordering clinician for clearance before proceeding with contrast injection or if alternative tests may be useful for diagnosis

### DIALYSIS GUIDELINES:

Defer to Nephrologist for course of treatment