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For appropriateness information and relative radiation level, please refer to:
American College of Radiology: ACR Appropriateness Criteria
<http://www.acr.org/ac>

Ordering Guidelines

BAYLOR RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

Body Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
General Abdomen & Pelvis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdominal pain Abscess Anemia Lymphoma Mass/Cancer (suspected) Metastatic Disease Weight loss 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For indications above, but with impaired renal function (GFR<60) Retroperitoneal hemorrhage 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>or consider</i> MRI ABDOMEN WITHOUT IV CONTRAST AND MRI PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Renal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known or suspected renal or ureteral calculus 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Renal Stone Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterize known renal mass 	CT ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Renal Mass Protocol</i> <i>Alternative:</i> MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Renal Mass Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unknown source of hematuria Known or suspected urinary tract mass/cancer 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Hematuria Protocol</i>
Adrenal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterize known adrenal mass 	CT ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Adrenal Mass Protocol</i> <i>Alternative:</i> MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Adrenal Mass Protocol</i>
Pancreas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pancreatitis 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-op staging of known pancreatic mass Characterize known or suspected pancreas mass 	CT ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Pancreatic Mass Protocol</i> <i>Chest and/or Pelvis can be added</i> <i>Alternative:</i> MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Pancreatic Mass Protocol</i>

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Body Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Liver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cirrhosis • Abnormal LFTs 	US ABDOMEN COMPLETE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterize known liver mass (detected on prior US or CT) 	CT ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Liver Mass Protocol</i> <i>Alternative:</i> MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Liver Mass Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate for liver metastasis in patients with known primary cancers that can have hypervascular metastasis, <i>i.e.</i> colon, pancreas, melanoma, breast, RCC, neuroendocrine, thyroid, GIST 	CT ABDOMEN WITH IV CONTRAST <i>Chest and/or Pelvis can be added</i> <i>specify Dual Liver Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCC screening 	MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Liver Mass Protocol</i> <i>MRI preferred; Alternative:</i> CT ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Liver Mass Protocol</i>
Bowel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendicitis • Bowel obstruction/perforation • Constipation • Diarrhea • Diverticulitis/Colitis • GI Bleeding (rectal/upper/lower) • Hernia • Nausea/Vomiting 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crohn's Disease (known or suspected) • Small bowel mass • Anemia with negative work-up • Malabsorption 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS ENTEROGRAPHY WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendicitis in pregnant patient 	MRI PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Appendicitis Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ischemic bowel/mesenteric ischemia (known or suspected) 	CTA ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST

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Ordering Guidelines

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Body Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Biliary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right upper quadrant pain • Cholelithiasis 	US RIGHT UPPER QUADRANT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biliary or pancreatic duct pathology • Unknown cause of dilated ducts 	MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST WITH MRCP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of ductal system without concern for malignancy, <i>i.e.</i> evaluation for pancreatic divisum, stone or other duct anomalies 	MRI ABDOMEN WITHOUT IV CONTRAST WITH MRCP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gallbladder mass 	MRI ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Pelvis	Initial evaluation for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female pelvic pain • Abnormal vaginal bleeding • Suspected uterine or ovarian mass • Suspected tubo-ovarian abscess • Ovarian torsion* 	US TRANSABDOMINAL AND/OR TRANSVAGINAL PELVIC <i>*for suspected ovarian torsion, ADD DUPLEX EVALUATION</i> BOTH transabdominal and transvaginal approaches are the preferred exam. <u>Transabdominal view</u> provides a larger view of the pelvis to evaluate for possible mass that could be missed on more focused transvaginal view. <u>Transvaginal view</u> provides greater focused detail, including of the ovaries and endometrium.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uterine or ovarian mass • Gynecologic cancer Diagnosis/Staging/Restaging • Pre/post fibroid embolization • Adenomyosis • Congenital gynecologic or urologic anomaly • Known pelvic mass 	MRI PELVIS WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pelvic pain (non-specified) • Abscess • Infection • Pelvic abscess/fistula 	CT PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST <i>Alternative:</i> MRI PELVIS WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prostate cancer (known) 	MRI PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall • Gun shot wound • Stab wound • Motor vehicle collision 	CT ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST

Updated 07/2014

For impaired renal function (GFR<30), a non-contrast MRI is usually more helpful than a non-contrast CT

For iodinated CT contrast allergy, an MRI with IV contrast can usually be performed

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Chest Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Nodule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lung nodule initial evaluation and follow-up • Lung Cancer Screening (For patients between ages 55 to 80 years who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 yrs) 	CT CHEST LOW DOSE NODULE WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
General Chest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pneumonia • Dyspnea • Chest pain • Cough • Fever • Pneumothorax • Evaluation for thoracic metastases in patient with extrathoracic malignancy • Follow-up chest tube for pneumothorax 	CT CHEST WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lymphadenopathy • Hilar mass • Lung cancer • Hemoptysis • Pleural effusion 	CT CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interstitial lung disease • Fibrosis • Pulmonary hypertension 	CT CHEST HIGH RESOLUTION WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>OR</i> <i>if IV contrast needed for other reasons:</i> CT CHEST HIGH RESOLUTION WITH IV CONTRAST
Pulmonary Arteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pulmonary Embolism • DVT • Elevated D-dimer • Pleuritic chest pain • AVM 	CTA CHEST PULMONARY EMBOLISM WITH IV CONTRAST
Airway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracheal stenosis • Tracheobronchomalacia 	CT NECK AND CHEST WITHOUT IV CONTRAST (AIRWAY PROTOCOL)

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Ordering Guidelines

BAYLOR RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

Musculoskeletal Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Joint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known intra-articular fracture • Known peri-articular fracture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surgical planning and/or classification 	<p>CT (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, forefoot, midfoot or hindfoot</i> <p>Alternative: MRI (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consider MRI for patients with osteopenia, osteoporosis or suspected radiographically occult fracture</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain • Internal derangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ligament tear ○ Meniscal tear • Rotator cuff tear • Osteochondral lesion 	<p>MRI (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, finger, hip, knee, ankle, forefoot, midfoot or hindfoot</i> <p>Alternative: CT (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) ARTHROGRAM WITH IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hip, knee, ankle</i> • <i>Specify MRI contraindication in history</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflammatory arthritis • Septic joint 	<p>MRI (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, finger, hip, knee, ankle, forefoot, midfoot or hindfoot</i> <p>Alternative: CT (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, forefoot, midfoot or hindfoot</i> • <i>Specify MRI contraindication in history</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization of a known labral tear • Post-menisectomy knee meniscus evaluation • Characterization of a known osteochondral lesion to further assess fragment stability (“OCD”) 	<p>MRI (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) ARTHROGRAM WITH IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hip, knee, ankle</i> <p>Alternative: CT (SPECIFY JOINT) (RIGHT/LEFT) ARTHROGRAM WITH IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hip, knee, ankle</i> • <i>Specify MRI contraindication in history</i>

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Ordering Guidelines

Musculoskeletal Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Bone: Long Bone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterization of a known fracture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical planning and/or classification Non-union Malunion Malalignment 	<p>CT (SPECIFY BONE) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia/fibula</i> <p>Alternative: MRI (SPECIFY BONE) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider MRI for patient with osteopenia, osteoporosis or suspected radiographically occult fracture
Pelvis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pain, Trauma Fracture characterization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical planning and/or classification Non-union Malunion Malalignment 	<p>CT PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Specify musculoskeletal pain, fracture or other MSK indication</i> <p>Alternative: MRI PELVIS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Specify musculoskeletal pain, fracture or other MSK indication</i> Consider MRI for patient with osteopenia, osteoporosis or suspected radiographically occult fracture
Primary Bone Tumor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterization Marrow involvement Soft tissue involvement 	<p>MRI (SPECIFY BONE) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia/fibula</i> <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, foot</i> <p>Alternative: CT (SPECIFY BONE) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia/fibula</i> <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, foot</i> <i>Specify MRI contraindication in history</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortical involvement Pathologic fracture characterization 	<p>CT (SPECIFY BONE) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia/fibula</i> <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, foot</i>
Bone Marrow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lytic Metastasis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i.e. Renal cell carcinoma</i> Multiple myeloma 	<p>MRI BONE SURVEY WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Bone Marrow Survey</i></p>

Ordering Guidelines

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Musculoskeletal Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Bone Infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osteomyelitis 	<p>MRI (SPECIFY BODY PART) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia/fibula</i> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, forefoot, midfoot, hindfoot</i> <p>Alternative: MRI (SPECIFY BODY PART) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. humerus, radius/ulna, femur or tibia/fibula</i> • <i>i.e. shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, forefoot, midfoot, hindfoot</i> • <i>Specify renal impairment</i>
Soft Tissue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abscess • Hematoma • Tumor • Metastasis 	<p>MRI (SPECIFY BODY PART) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. arm, forearm, thigh, leg, pelvis</i> • <i>Pelvis – specify musculoskeletal indication</i> <p>Alternative: CT (SPECIFY BODY PART) (RIGHT/LEFT) WITH IV CONTRAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>i.e. arm, forearm, thigh, leg, pelvis</i> • <i>Pelvis – Specify musculoskeletal indication</i>

Updated 07/2014

Cardiovascular Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Coronary Arteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coronary artery disease evaluation 	CTA CORONARY ONLY (NO CAL SCORING) WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calcium score 	CT CORONARY CALCIUM SCORING ONLY WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coronary artery disease evaluation and calcium score 	CTA CORONARY WITH CAL EVAL WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Thoracic Aorta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rule out or follow-up thoracic aorta aneurysm Atherosclerosis Penetrating ulcer Abnormality noted on CXR or Ultrasound Follow-up surgical graft repair of thoracic aorta (NO STENT) 	CTA CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vasculitis, Aortitis 	CTA CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST <i>(specify: arterial AND delayed phases)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thoracic aorta dissection (suspected) 	CTA CHEST WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Abdominal Aorta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rule out or follow-up abdominal aorta aneurysm Atherosclerosis Penetrating ulcer Abnormality noted on CXR or Ultrasound 	CTA ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vasculitis, Aortitis 	CTA ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST <i>(arterial and delayed phases)</i>
Thoraco-abdominal Aorta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thoraco-abdominal aorta dissection (suspected) 	CTA CHEST, ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rule out or follow-up thoraco-abdominal aorta aneurysm 	CTA CHEST, ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST <i>Alternative:</i> MRA CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST AND MRA ABDOMEN WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marfan's Syndrome 	MRA CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST AND MRA ABDOMEN WITH IV CONTRAST

Cardiovascular Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Stent Graft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-stent graft planning (Endograft, EVAR) 	CTA CHEST, ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Pre-Stent Graft Protocol</i> <i>(choose chest, abdomen and/or pelvis)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-stent graft follow-up (Endograft, EVAR) 	CTA CHEST, ABDOMEN AND PELVIS WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Post-Stent Graft Protocol</i> <i>(choose chest, abdomen and/or pelvis)</i>
Pulmonary Vein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pulmonary veins evaluation pre or post ablation 	CT PULMONARY VEINS WITH IV CONTRAST
Pericardium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pericardial calcifications Pre-operative planning 	CT CARDIAC PERICARDIAL CONSTRICTION WITH IV CONTRAST <i>(can be done with or without contrast)</i>
Peripheral Vasculature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claudication/pain Peripheral vascular disease Cold foot Ischemia/gangrene 	CTA LOWER EXTREMITY (LEFT AND/OR RIGHT) WITH IV CONTRAST <i>(can include CTA ABD AORTA AND ILIOFEMORAL RUNOFF)</i>
Renal Artery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renal artery stenosis 	CTA ABDOMEN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Renal Artery Stenosis Protocol</i> <i>Alternative:</i> MRA ABDOMEN WITH IV CONTRAST
Tram Flap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tram flap reconstruction 	CTA ABDOMEN PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST <i>Specify Tram Flap Protocol</i>
ALTPF and Fibular Flaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free anterolateral thigh and fibular flaps reconstruction 	CTA ABDOMEN PELVIS WITH IV CONTRAST CTA LOWER EXTREMITY (LEFT AND RIGHT) <i>Specify ALTPF and Fibula Flap</i>
Thoracic Outlet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thoracic outlet syndrome 	CTA CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST <i>specify TOS Protocol</i> <i>Alternative:</i> MRA CHEST WITH IV CONTRAST <i>specify TOS Protocol</i>

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Ordering Guidelines

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Neuroradiology Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Brain: Acute Symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Altered mental status Trauma Acute or chronic hydrocephalus 	CT HEAD WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute headache 	CT HEAD WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>(if focal deficits are present, MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV may be needed for further evaluation)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute stroke (<6 hr onset/TPA candidate) Acute headache (rule out aneurysm) 	CT HEAD WITHOUT IV CONTRAST CTA NECK WITH IV CONTRAST CTA HEAD WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute stroke (>6 hrs onset/not TPA candidate) 	CT HEAD WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>(to rule out hemorrhage)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute stroke (Negative head CT) 	MRI BRAIN WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute stroke (Need to evaluate vessels) 	MRA NECK WITH IV CONTRAST AND MRA HEAD WITH IV CONTRAST MRI BRAIN WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>If MRI contraindicated:</i> CTA HEAD AND NECK WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute dissection/trauma, rule out arterial injury 	CT HEAD WITHOUT IV CONTRAST CTA NECK WITH IV CONTRAST CTA HEAD WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute or chronic dissection (CTA negative) 	MRA NECK WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>Specify Dissection protocol with axial T1 pre with fat sat</i> MRI BRAIN WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Brain General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CNS Infection Brain tumor Metastasis Vasculitis Seizure Chronic headaches 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>If MRI contraindicated:</i> CT HEAD WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dural sinus thrombosis Pseudotumor cerebri 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST MRV HEAD WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>If MRI contraindicated:</i> CT BRAIN WITHOUT IV AND INTRACRANIAL VENOGRAM WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dementia Memory loss 	MRI BRAIN WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Dementia Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trigeminal neuralgia (facial pain) 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify Trigeminal Neuralgia Protocol</i>

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Neuroradiology Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Multiple Sclerosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rule out Multiple Sclerosis 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify MS Protocol</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Sclerosis with optic symptoms 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify MS Protocol</i> MRI ORBITS ONLY WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple Sclerosis with Spine symptoms 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify MS Protocol</i> MRI CERVICAL SPINE WITH IV CONTRAST MRI THORACIC SPINE WITH IV CONTRAST
Internal Auditory Canal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensorineural hearing loss • Vertigo • IAC or CPA pathology • Facial weakness (Bell's Palsy) • Hemi-facial spasm 	MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>specify IAC protocol</i>
Pituitary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro or macro pituitary adenoma • Pituitary insufficiency • Diabetes insipidus • Precocious puberty 	MRI PITUITARY WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Orbits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma • Fracture • Hemorrhage • Retinal detachment • Foreign body 	CT ORBITS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thyroid orbitopathy (Grave's) 	CT ORBITS WITH IV CONTRAST <i>If concern for compression of optic nerves in apex:</i> MRI ORBITS ONLY WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection • Vascular (CC fistula/Varix) 	CT ORBITS WITH IV CONTRAST <i>if concern for intracranial extension</i> MRI ORBITS ONLY WITH IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarcoidosis • Pseudotumor • Intraconal/Extraconal Masses • Ocular or Melanoma Metastases 	MRI ORBITS ONLY WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optic Nerve/Neuritis 	MRI ORBITS ONLY WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>if Multiple Sclerosis is suspected, consider adding:</i> MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST

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Neuroradiology Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Maxillofacial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facial trauma • Foreign Bodies 	CT MAXILLOFACIAL WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sinusitis 	CT SINUS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facial Infection • Mass/neoplasm 	CT MAXILLOFACIAL WITH IV CONTRAST <i>if intracranial extension of tumor or infection is suspected or need to evaluate soft tissues or sinuses:</i> MRI FACE ONLY WITH IV CONTRAST
Parotid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parotid mass 	CT NECK WITH IV CONTRAST <i>Alternative:</i> MRI FACE ONLY WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
Neck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection • Palpable mass • Lymphadenopathy • Cranial nerve palsies 1, 3-12 • Sialoadenitis • Thyroid pre-op goiter • Pre-op known thyroid cancer 	CT NECK WITH IV CONTRAST <i>For Nasopharynx and/or to evaluate for perineural spread:</i> MRI SKULL BASE WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST Note: The use of iodinated contrast will result in a delay in the ability to use radioactive iodine for diagnosis or treatment of thyroid cancer, but is helpful for evaluation of nodal metastasis.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head and Neck cancer 	CT NECK WITH IV CONTRAST <i>For Nasopharynx only:</i> MRI SKULL BASE WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST Note: MRI skull base may be complementary to evaluate skull base, intracranial extension and/or perineural spread
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laryngeal trauma • Foreign Bodies • Known thyroid cancer (with planned ablation) • Tracheal stenosis 	CT NECK AND CHEST (AIRWAY PROTOCOL)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parathyroid Adenoma (hypercalcemia) 	CT NECK WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST PARATHYROID GLANDS

Ordering Guidelines

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Neuroradiology Imaging

BODY PART	CLINICAL CONCERN	RECOMMENDED ORDER
Temporal Bone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conductive hearing loss • Subjective tinnitus • Cholesteatoma • Fracture • Post-operative Evaluation 	CT TEMPORAL BONES WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mastoiditis • Otogenic infection 	CT TEMPORAL BONES WITH IV CONTRAST Note: MRI BRAIN WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST is complementary but not essential if suspect intracranial extension or sinus thrombosis
Spine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma 	CT (*) SPINE WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>*specify cervical, thoracic and/or lumbar</i> Note: MRI (*) SPINE WITHOUT IV CONTRAST is complementary if there are myelopathic symptoms
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain • Numbness • Myelopathy • Radiculopathy 	MRI (*) SPINE WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>*specify cervical, thoracic and/or lumbar</i> Note: CT (*) SPINE WITHOUT IV CONTRAST is complementary when pathology is primarily osseous
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection • Mass/Neoplasm • Multiple Sclerosis, spine only 	MRI (*) SPINE WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>*specify cervical, thoracic and/or lumbar</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spine survey for metastasis 	MRI CERVICAL, THORACIC AND LUMBAR SPINE WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-operative spine 	MRI (*) SPINE WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>To evaluate recurrent or residual disc herniation vs. scar</i> <i>*specify cervical, thoracic and/or lumbar</i> CT (*) SPINE WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>To evaluate hardware and fusion/may be complimentary to MRI</i> <i>*specify cervical, thoracic and/or lumbar</i>
Brachial Plexus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain 	MRI BRACHIAL (RIGHT/LEFT) PLEXUS WITHOUT IV CONTRAST
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection • Mass/Neoplasm 	MRI BRACHIAL (RIGHT/LEFT) PLEXUS WITH IV CONTRAST

For appropriateness information and relative radiation level, please refer to:
American College of Radiology: ACR Appropriateness Criteria
<http://www.acr.org/ac>

Ordering Guidelines

BAYLOR RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

Neuroradiology Imaging

Skull Base & Cavernous Sinus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diplopia • Painless or Painful 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th cranial nerve palsies • Tumors • Infection • Intracranial extension of sinus or orbital pathology 	MRI SKULL BASE WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST <i>If need to evaluate bones or MR contraindication:</i> CT MAXILLOFACIAL WITH IV CONTRAST
Sacrum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain • Mass/Neoplasm • Infection 	MRI SACRUM WITH AND WITHOUT IV CONTRAST

Updated 07/2014

NOTE: For evaluation of spinal cord pathology, masses or infection – MRI with and without IV contrast is the optimal exam.