CT Ordering Guide

CT Chest W/O Contrast .................................................. CPT Code 71270
  • Lung Nodule(s) (may be done W/ Contrast if ordering MD desires)
  • Pneumonia (may be done W/ Contrast if ordering MD desires)
  • Pleural effusion (may be done W/ Contrast if ordering MD desires)
  • Intersellar/Lung Disease (Hi-Res Chest)
CT Chest W Contrast ................................................... CPT Code 71260
  • Lung Cancer (may be done W/ Contrast if ordering MD desires)
  • Mediastinal Mass/Abnormality
  • Hilal Mass/Abnormality
  • Aneurysm Follow-Up (may only be done W/ Contrast if ordering MD desires)
CT Head W Contrast ........................................................ CPT Code 71275
  • Cerebral Palsy
  • Head Trauma
  • Stroke/TIA
  • Headache
  • Meningitis
  • Intracranial hemorrhage
  • Intraparenchymal hematoma
CT Heart W Contrast ..................................................... CPT Code 71268
  • Coronary artery disease
  • Chest pain suspected cardiac
  • Pulmonary venous mapping
  • Pulmonary vein evaluation
CT Neck and/or Chest W Contrast ..................................... CPT Code 71271
  • Thoracic/Abdominal aorta

Angiography

Angiography Chest W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction . . . . CPT Code 71275
  • Chronic PE
  • Pulmonary AVM
  • Pre and Post Operative sternal anatomy (Dor sternotomy, Damiano protocol)
Angiography Chest W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction . . . CPT Code 71250 & 76377
  • Airway imaging (inc. TBM, Tracheal stenosis, Tracheal malacia (Tracheal Tree)
  • Redo sternotomy for patients who cannot have contrast
  • Aortic or mitral valve for patients who cannot have contrast
Angiography Coronal W/O Contrast .................................. CPT Code 75574
  • Coronary artery disease
  • Bypass graft evaluation
  • Chest pain suspected cardiac
Angiography Heart W Contrast (Morphology) ......................... CPT Code 75572
  • Pulmonary venous mapping
  • Pulmonary vein evaluation

Abdomen and Pelvis

Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction . . . CPT Code 74176 & 76377
  • Pre and post endoluminal grafting for patients who cannot have contrast
Abdomen and Pelvis CT W Contrast .................................. CPT Code 74175
  • Malignancy Staging/Malignancy follow-up
Angiography Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction . . . CPT Code 74174
  • Pre and Post endoluminal grafting (Aortic stenosis/TAI)
Angiography Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction . . . CPT Code 74178 & 76377
  • Pre and post endoluminal grafting for patients who cannot have contrast
Virtual Colonoscopy Diagnostic CT W/O Contrast .................... CPT Code 74261
  • Failed colonoscopy
  • Patients that cannot be sedated or cannot stop blood thinners for conventional colonoscopy
Urogram CT (Abdomen and Pelvis W and W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction) . . . CPT Code 74178 & 76377
  • Hematuria

Angiography, Abdominal Aorta CT with Lower Extremity Runoff, W Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction . . . CPT Code 75635
  • CT AIV / Bypass evaluation/Cold leg/lasea ang angina
Head CT W/O Contrast .................................................. CPT Code 70450
  • Headache/Stroke/Head/VA
  • Dizziness/Intracranial bleed
Head CT W and W/O Contrast ......................................... CPT Code 70470
  • Mass/Metastatic disease
Neck CT W Contrast ..................................................... CPT Code 70491
  • Neck Mass/Malignancy Staging/Malignancy follow
Sinus CT W/O Contrast .................................................. CPT Code 70486
  • Acute or chronic Sinusitis/ Nasal cavity polyps
Orbits CT W/O Contrast .................................................. CPT Code 70480
  • Trauma/black eye/visual defects
Maxillofacial CT W/O Contrast ......................................... CPT Code 70486
  • Trauma/black eye/facial contusion/jaw injury

Maxillofacial CT W Contrast ............................................. CPT Code 70487
  • Facial weakness/NeoplaIn/Abnormality/Cellulitis/Abss
Temporal Bones CT W/O Contrast ..................................... CPT Code 70480
  • Ear Disorder/Osteitis/Acute Mastoiditis
  • Intratemporal hematoma
  • Tympanic/ear injury
Spine CT W/O Contrast .................................................. CPT Code 72215 (C-Spine) or 72128 (T-Spine) or 72131 (L-Spine)
  • Radiotherapy/Trauma/Pain
Head CTA ................................................................. CPT Code 70496
  • Intracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
  • Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Aneurysm malformation (AVM)
Head and Neck CTA ....................................................... CPT Code 70496 and 70498
  • Extracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
  • Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Aneurysm malformation (AVM)
  • Penetrating neck injury
  • Cervical Spine fracture

Premedication Protocol

• Patients with hives or rash must be pre-meditated for an IV contrast CT scan (not oral contrast).
• Patients with vomiting or distress with IV contrast, or shell fish allergy do not require premedication.
• Patients with anaphylaxis or laryngeal edema should be discussed with Radiologist before the exam and/or premedication is ordered.

Premedication Protocol

• Prednisone: 50 mg PO (four doses total) to be taken 19 hours, 13 hours, 7 hours and 1 hour prior to appointment.
• Diphenhydramine (Benadryl): 50 mg PO to be taken 1 hour prior to exam.

All exams are read by radiologists from Washington University’s Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology. For questions regarding how to order any of the CT scans or how to reach the appropriate sub-specialty radiologist, please call 314-996-8514.

To schedule any radiology exam please call Radiology Scheduling 314-996-8080 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday
CT Ordering Guide

Updated March 31, 2015

Chest CT W/O Contrast ........................................... CPT Code 71270
• Dissection

Angiography, Chest CT W and W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ....... CPT Code 71275
• Chronic PE
• Pulmonary AVM

Chest CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ........................ CPT Code 71250 & 76377
• Airway imaging (incl. TBM), Tracheal stenosis, Tracheal malacia (Tracheal Tree)
• Redo stentotomy for patients who cannot have contrast
• Aortic or mitral valve for patients who cannot have contrast

Chest CT W Contrast .............................................. CPT Code 71260
• Lung Nodules (may be done W Contrast if ordering MD desires)
• Pneumonia (may be done W Contrast if ordering MD desires)
• Pleural effusion (may be done W Contrast if ordering MD desires)
• Interstitial Lung Disease (Hi-Res Chest)
• COPD

Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ....... CPT Code 74176 & 76377
• Pre and Post endoluminal grafting for patients who cannot have contrast

Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast ........................... CPT Code 74176
• Adrenal mass detection

Abdomen CT W Contrast ............................................. CPT Code 74160
• Liver Mass Characterization/Surgical Planning
• Hepatitis/Cirrhosis/Cholangiocarcinoma

Abdomen CT W and W/O Contrast ................................ CPT Code 74170
• Liver chemo embolization or RFA
• Adrenal Mass characterization

Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast ............................ CPT Code 74176
• Renal Stone/RP bleed
• Abdomen and pelvis patient who cannot have contrast (will give oral contrast)

Angiography Abdomen CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ... CPT Code 74174
• Pre Liver transplant/Portal vein embolization
• Hepatic resection candidates

Angiography Abd and Pel CT W and W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ... CPT Code 74174
• Pre and Post endoluminal grafting
• TRAM flap surgical planning
• Living liver donor

Abdomen and Pelvis CT W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ....... CPT Code 74176
• Abdominal Pain/Abdominal mass/Malignancy
• Diverticulitis/Appendicitis/Abcess/Acute pancreatitis
• GI bleeding

Virtual Colonoscopy Diagnostic CT W/O Contrast ........................ CPT Code 74261
• Failed colonoscopy
• Patients that cannot be sedated or cannot stop blood thinners for conventional colonoscopy

Urogram CT (Abdomen and Pelvis W and W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction). . . . CPT Code 74178 & 76377
• Hematuria

Angiography, Abdominal Aorta CT with Lower Extremity Runoff, W Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction ........ CPT Code 75635
• CT AIF / Bypass evaluation/Cardiogenic ischemia

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• Headache/Stroke/Shock/TA
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Head CT W and W/O Contrast ..................................... CPT Code 70470
• Mass/Metastatic disease

Neck CT W Contrast .................................................. CPT Code 70491
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Sinus CT W/O Contrast ............................................. CPT Code 70486
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• Trauma/black eye/visual defects

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• Trauma/ black eye/facial contusion/jaw injury

Maxillofacial CT W Contrast ........................................ CPT Code 70487
• Facial weakness/Neoplasm/Malignancy/Skin/Skin Abscess

Temporal Bones CT W/O Contrast ................................ CPT Code 70480
• Ear Disorder/Deafness/Acute Mastoiditis
• Intraparenchymal hematoma
• Trauma/ear injury

Spine CT W/O Contrast ............................................ CPT Code 72125 (C-Spine) or 72128 (T-Spine) or 72131 (L-Spine)
• Intracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
• Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Arteriovenous malformation (AVM)
• Radiation/Pathology/Spine/Pain

Head CTA ................................................................. CPT Code 70496
• Intracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
• Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Arteriovenous malformation (AVM)

Head and Neck CTA ................................................... CPT Code 70496 and 70498
• Intracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
• Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Arteriovenous malformation (AVM)
• Penetrating neck injury
• Cervical Spine fracture

Premedication Protocol
• Premedication for Contrast Allergy
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