



MRI & CT

INDICATION GUIDELINES

COMPLIMENTS OF OPTIMAL IMAGING



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St. Vincent's HealthCare

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The **OPTIMAL** DIFFERENCE

2-Hour Turnaround Time

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Imaging Network with (3) 3T MRIs

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ABDOMEN & PELVIS

MRI & CT Indication Guidelines

Clinical Problem (ABDOMEN & PELVIS)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
Non-focal Pain	CT Abdomen	IV contrast	IV needed for solid organ disease
Appendicitis, Diverticulitis	CT Abdomen and Pelvis	IV contrast	IV contrast helpful if patient is thin
Painful Hematuria, r/o Kidney Stone	CT Abdomen and Pelvis	No	Evaluation for renal stone
Painless Hematuria Renal Mass	CT Abdomen, consider MR w and w/o contrast if CT indeterminate	IV contrast; w & w/o	Useful for indeterminate renal cysts/lesions on Ultrasound
Liver Mass	MR	w & w/o	Eovist contrast
Bile Duct Stone or Obstruction	MR	w/o	Request MR Cholangiopancreatography (MRCP)
Aortic Aneurysm	CT	Yes	

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ABDOMEN & PELVIS



MRI & CT Indication Guidelines

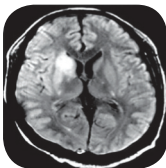
Clinical Problem (ABDOMEN & PELVIS)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
Cancer Patient	CT Abdomen and Pelvis with contrast	IV contrast	
Adrenal Gland	CT Abdomen w/o contrast if needed after non-contrast CT per radiologist	Non-contrast may be sufficient. no oral contrast	Contrast only if non-contrast CT is inconclusive
Pelvis-Female	Ultrasound, then MR>CT	CT: IV contrast	MRI w & w/o if contrast is indicated
Pelvis-Male	CT or MR	CT: IV contrast	MRI w & w/o if contrast is indicated

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BRAIN



MRI & CT Indication Guidelines

Clinical Problem (BRAIN)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
CVA	CT (0-24hrs) MR	No No	If less than 6 hours, also consider CTA or MRA of neck and brain. If less than 24 hours, referral to ER/Acute care facility for imaging is usually preferred
Acute Bleed	CT>>MR	No	
Subarachnoid Bleed	CT	No	
Brain Tumor, Metastases	MR>>CT MR	w & w/o	CT better for tumor calcification
Seizure	MR	w & w/o	Contrast for adults first time seizure, especially if over 40
CNS infection, Abscess, Meningitis	MR	w & w/o	
AIDS	MR	w & w/o	
Headache	MR	w & w/o	Contrast for meningeal/dural disease, mass, meningioma
Dementia	MR>CT	No	MR gives superior evaluation of white matter changes, patterns of atrophy
Neurodegenerative Disorder	MR	No	Parkinson's disease, etc.
Carotid Stenosis	CTA	w & w/o	

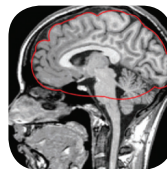
> recommended over other study
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BRAIN



MRI & CT Indication Guidelines

Clinical Problem (SPINE)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
Subdural Hematoma	CT=MR	No No	MR detects smaller non-surgical acute SDH and Sub-acute to chronic SDH
MS	MR	w & w/o	Contrast helpful if non-contrast is abnormal
Posterior Fossa, Brainstem Lesion	MR	w & w/o	MR far superior in this region
Acoustic Neuroma, Sensorineural Hearing Loss	MR	w & w/o	CT not sensitive for small IAC lesions but may be needed for otic capsule disease
Pituitary Tumor	MR	w & w/o	MR far superior in this region
Pulsatile Tinnitus	MR>CT	w & w/o	MRA neck can be ordered w only or w & w/o. MRA brain w/o contrast (dye not needed)
Aneurysm	MRA or CTA	Possibly Yes	MRA for screening especially at high field CTA for greater detail
Venous Sinus Thrombosis	CTA MR/MRV	Yes No	Usually can avoid conventional Venography

= comparable studies
> Recommended over other study

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CHEST



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Clinical Problem (CHEST)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
Pulmonary Embolus	CTA	Yes	Evaluation of acute chest pain and SOB
Nodule, Mass, Infiltrate	CT	Yes or No	Peripheral nodules remote from hilum can be imaged without contrast. Contrast helpful for hilar disease
Interstitial Lung Disease	High Resolution CT	No	1 or 2 mm slices at 5 or 10 mm increments
Coronary Artery Disease	CT of Heart	Yes	Detailed visualization of coronary arteries
Coronary Calcium Screening		No	Screening for people with low to moderate risk of CAD
Aortic Aneurysm Diseases	CT	Yes	

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NECK, SKULL, BASE & ORBIT



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Clinical Problem (NECK, SKULL, BASE & ORBIT)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
Sinusitis	CT	No	CT defines ostial obstruction Bone changes
Neck Mass	CT	Yes	Adenopathy better on CT; Tongue and perineural skull base disease better on MR
	MR	w & w/o	MRI=w/wo if contrast needed
Conductive Hearing Loss- Sensorineural Hearing Loss	CT	No	Mastoid, middle ear, ossicles
	MR	w & w/o	IAC, brainstem/CPA, Labyrinth
Skull Base	MR=CT	w & w/o	CT sometimes necessary to better show bony detail
Squamous CA	CT>MR	w & w/o	Skull base to thoracic inlet
Vocal Cord Paralysis	CT>>MR	w & w/o	Skull base to carina
Orbit-Proptosis	CT	w & w/o	No contrast for Graves' disease
	MR		
Optic Nerves	CT	Yes	MR - optic neuritis, high field works best.
	MR	w & w/o	MRI orbits w & w/o CT - Meningioma, calcification
Cavernous Sinus	MR	w & w/o	MR brain/sella
Cranial Nerves	MR	w & w/o	
Facial Trauma	CT	No	
Salivary Gland	CT	Yes	

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SPINE



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Clinical Problem (SPINE)	Preferred Study	Contrast	Comments
Herniated Disc, Cervical or Thoracic, Lumbar	MR>>CT	If previous surgery, contrast	Contrast essential to distinguish scar from disc after surgery MRI = w & w/o
Stenosis	MR>>CT	No	Helical CT with Reconstructions can be adequate especially if MR contraindication
Discitis/ Osteomyelitis	MR	w & w/o	
Metastasis: Bone	MR	w & w/o	Non-contrast for bone metastasis
Epidural or Intraspinal	MR	w & w/o	Contrast for epidural or intrathecal tumor
Compression Fracture, Bone Metastasis	MR	No	MRI allows evaluation of bone marrow, Focal CT for operative planning
	Focal CT	No	
Cord Disease	MR	w & w/o	Demyelination, syrinx
Cord Tumor	MR	w & w/o	

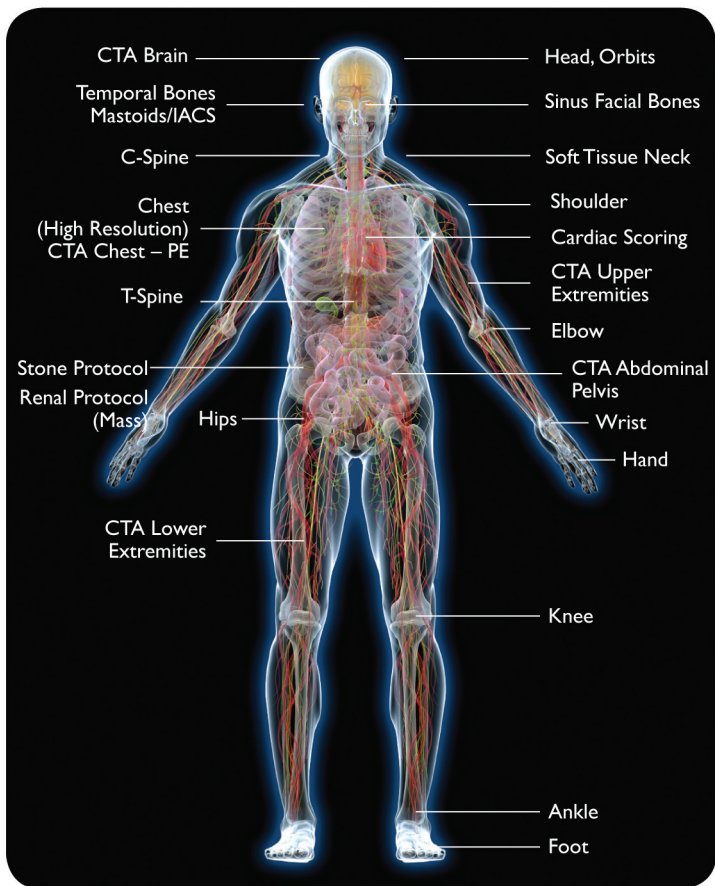
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CT

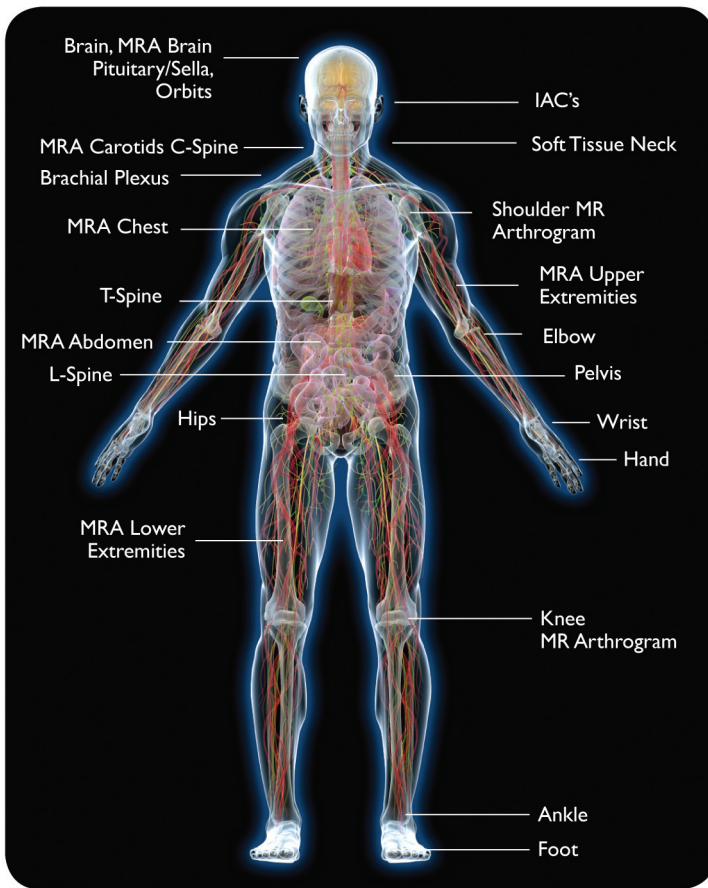


Fields of Expertise





MRI



Fields of Expertise





LOCATIONS

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Mandarin

10503 San Jose Boulevard | Suite 100 | Jacksonville, FL 32257
904.450.6680 (P) | 904.450.6694 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Middleburg

1786 Blanding Boulevard | Suite 11 | Middleburg, FL 32068
904.450.6940 (P) | 904.291.3268 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Orange Park

2300 Park Avenue | Suite 104 | Orange Park, FL 32273
904.215.2580 (P) | 904.215.2589 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Riverside

2345 Forbes Street | Jacksonville, FL 32204
904.381.9994 (P) | 904.389.6866 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Southside

6138 Kennerly Road | Suite 101 | Jacksonville, FL 32216
904.733.7770 (P) | 904.733.7778 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | St. Johns County

2001 CR 210 | Suite 100 | St. Johns, FL 32259
904.450.6270 (P) | 904.450.6279 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Town Center

6699 Gate Parkway | Suite C | Jacksonville, FL 32256
904.450.8180 (P) | 904.450.8806 (F)

OPTIMAL IMAGING | Westside

6488 103rd Street | Suite C | Jacksonville, FL 32210
904.450.6980 (P) | 904.450.8829 (F)



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