

Imaging Studies on Emergency Department Patients Guidelines

The following guidelines have been developed regarding the practice of contacting the ER radiology resident *on weekends, holidays and after 5 pm* for Emergency Department imaging examinations in an effort to streamline the process.

The on call resident can be contacted directly at ext. 44385.

Types of examinations that can be scheduled WITHOUT contacting the radiology resident include:

- CT for ureteral stone (without oral contrast, without IV contrast)
 - *Flank pain, possible Hematuria or Renal Stones (For Pelvic Floor & Diaphragm issues)*
- Trauma Alert CT (acute multisystem trauma)
- Extremity joint CT for fracture
- Non-contrast CT head, maxillofacial and spine
- CTA perfusion study head and neck (acute stroke/vasospasm protocol)
- Pelvic CT for pediatric appendicitis (without oral contrast, with IV contrast)
- Cardiac CTA (within ED cardiac protocol)

The radiology resident SHOULD be contacted by the requesting ED or Trauma staff for the following:

- Prior to starting oral contrast so that the resident can protocol the examination
- CT requests on pregnant patients
- Pulmonary CTA examinations for PE
- All MRI examinations
- All Nuclear Medicine emergency procedures
- Ultrasound examinations after 5 PM
- History of contrast reaction when requesting CT with IV iodinated contrast
- Questions regarding giving IV contrast with renal insufficiency/dialysis
- In order to expedite an emergent study
- If there is a need to communicate additional pertinent history or if there are any questions or concerns, the radiology resident should be contacted