

CT EXAM CPT CODE REFERENCE

Use this reference to quickly determine the correct exam for your patients based on the indications described herein and the CPT for the order.



Please include creatinine levels for patients over 60 or with history of renal failure. If not available, you can schedule the patient at WR Garner, WR Chapel Hill or WR Cary and we will check their levels for you.

BODY PART	PROCEDURE FOR PRE-AUTHORIZATION	CPT CODE	INDICATION FOR CT EXAM OR STUDY		CONTRAST	SPEC
CT HEAD	CT Head without contrast	70450	Trauma Headaches CVA Stroke/Bleed Alzheimer's Memory Loss/Confusion	Shunt Check Hydrocephalus TIA Change in Mental Status Dizziness/Vertigo	No Contrast	Neuro
	CT Head with and without contrast (Note: MRI Brain may be preferred study if patient is able. Consult the radiologist.)	70470	Metastases/known cancer (MRI preferable)		Yes Contrast	Neuro
CTA HEAD (Circle of Willis)	CTA Brain with and without contrast	70496	Aneurysm Family history of aneurysm	3rd nerve palsy Vascular malformation	Yes Contrast	Neuro
CT ORBITS	CT Orbits without contrast	70480	Trauma Fracture	Foreign Body Bony Abnormalities	No Contrast	Neuro
	CT Orbits with and without contrast	70481	Infection Abscess/Cellulitis	Pain Mass/Tumor/Cancer	Yes Contrast	Neuro
CT SINUS	CT Sinus without contrast	70486	Sinusitis Mass Pain Foreign Body	Congestion Nasal Polyps Deviated Septum Sinus Headache	No Contrast	Neuro
CT FACE (From orbits to mandible)	CT Maxillofacial without contrast	70486	Trauma Pain	Fracture Bony Abnormality	No Contrast	Neuro
	CT Maxillofacial with contrast	70487	Tumor Swelling/Mass in Face	Infection Abscess	Yes Contrast	Neuro
CT TEMPORAL BONES/MASTOIDS	CT Temporal Bones without contrast	70480	Hearing Loss Tinnitus (ringing in ears) Cholesteatoma	Drainage in Ear Mass	No Contrast	Neuro
	CT Temporal Bones with and without contrast	70482	Acoustic Neuroma (When there are contraindications for MRI)		Yes Contrast	Neuro
CT NECK	CT Soft tissue neck with contrast	70491	Focal Mass Swollen Lymph Nodes Lymphoma	Dysphagia Goiter Esophageal Cancer	Yes Contrast	Neuro
	CT Soft tissue neck with and without contrast	70492	Salivary gland stone		As Determined by Radiologist	Neuro
CTA NECK ARTERIES	CT Angiography Neck with and without contrast	70498	Carotid stenosis Stroke/CVA/TIA Bruit Abnormal carotid sonogram		Yes Contrast	Neuro
CT ABDOMEN: General	CT Abdomen with contrast	74160	Abdominal Pain RUQ or LUQ pain Abnormal U/S Neoplasm	Mass Weight Loss Hernia Trauma	Yes Contrast	Body
CT ABDOMEN & PELVIS: General (From lung bases to pubis)	Dual Study: CT Abdomen with contrast CT Pelvis with contrast	74160 72193	Mass Abdominal Pain/Pelvic Pain RLQ or LLQ Pain Appendicitis Lymphoma Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea Bloody Stool Diverticulitis Diverticulosis Abnormal U/S All cancer staging except Melanoma or carcinoid	Weight Loss Hernia Trauma Rectal Bleeding Constipation/Obstruction IBD (Inflammatory Bowel Disease) METS Ovarian Cancer Staging Prostate/Colon Cancer Staging Neoplasm	Yes Contrast	Body
	Dual Study: CT Abdomen with and without contrast CT Pelvis with contrast	74170 72193	Cancer staging for Melanoma or carcinoid		Yes Contrast	Body
CT PELVIS: General (From iliac crest to pubis)	CT Pelvis with contrast	72193	LLQ or RLQ Pain Pelvic Pain Groin Pain Abnormal Pelvic U/S Pelvic Mass	Ovarian Cancer Umbilical Hernia Trauma Adnexal Mass	Yes Contrast	Body
CTE ABDOMEN & PELVIS ENTEROGRAPHY	Dual Study: CT Abdomen with contrast CT Pelvis with contrast	74160 72193	Crohn's Disease Suspected Small Bowel Tumors Mesenteric/Intestinal Bleeding Suspected GI Bleeding Evaluation of Bowel Patency		Yes Contrast	Body
CT CHEST: General	CT Chest with contrast	71260	Abnormal CXR Adenopathy Pneumonia Cough Hemoptysis Sarcoidosis Hilar Abnormality Hx Cancer/Tumor/Mets Chest Pain Pulmonary Embolism Aortic Dissection	Neoplasm Abscess Pulmonary nodule Enlarged Aortic Arch Lung Lesion Lymphadenopathy Asbestos Exposure Shortness of Breath Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Thoracic Aneurysm	Yes Contrast	Body
HIGH RESOLUTION CHEST	CT Chest with and without contrast, high resolution	71270	Interstitial Disease Fibrosis Bronchiectasis	COPD/Emphysema Asbestos Exposure	As Determined by Radiologist	Body
CT EXTREMITIES Upper (hand, wrist, elbow, radius/ulna, humerus, shoulder)	Dual Study: CT Upper Extremity with contrast CT Lower Extremity with contrast	73201 73701	Infection Tumor/Mass/Cancer/Mets (MRI is more sensitive)		Yes Contrast	Ortho
	Dual Study: CT Upper Extremity without contrast CT Lower Extremity without contrast	73200 73700	Pain Arthritis Fracture	Fusion Malunion	No Contrast	Ortho
CT EXTREMITIES Lower (foot, ankle, knee, hip, tibia/fibula, femur)						
CT SPINE	Triple Study: CT Cervical without contrast CT Thoracic without contrast CT Lumbar without contrast	72125 72128 72131	Pain Trauma Degenerative disc disease	Fracture Post-op/Fusion	No Contrast	Neuro
	CT Pelvis with contrast	72193	Soft Tissue Mass Tumor/Mets Abscess	Infection Cellulitis	Yes Contrast	Ortho
	CT Pelvis without contrast (Note: MRI Pelvis may be preferred study in some circumstances. Consult the radiologist.)	72192	Pain Fracture Cancer/Mets	Arthritis Bone Lesions	No Contrast	Ortho
CT LIVER	CT Abdomen with and without contrast (Note: MRI Abdomen may be preferred study in some circumstances. Consult the radiologist.)	74170	Increased LFTs RUQ Pain Abnormal Abdominal U/S Jaundice History of liver cancer Liver transplant	Hepatoma Hemachromatosis Hemangioma Hepatitis Cirrhosis	Yes Contrast	Body
RENAL STONE	Dual Study: CT Abdomen without contrast CT Pelvis without contrast	74150 72192	Hematuria Flank pain Low back pain Urinary frequency	Stone Prostatitis Dysuria	No Contrast	Body
TRI-PHASE RENAL	CT Abdomen with and without contrast	74170	Hematuria Flank Pain Hydronephrosis Low back pain Abnormal U/S	Renal Failure/Mass/Transplant Hypertension History of renal cancer History of stones Polycystic kidney disease	Yes Contrast	Body
CT UROGRAM (Urinary System, kidneys to bladder)	Dual Study: CT Abdomen with and without contrast CT Pelvis with and without contrast	74170 72194	Abnormal Cystogram Painless Hematuria Bladder Mass or Tumor	History of Renal Cancer Abnormal Renal U/S Suspected Renal Mass	Yes Contrast	Body
	ADRENAL	CT Abdomen with and without contrast	74170	Adrenal Mass		Yes Contrast
CTA ABDOMEN	CTA Abdominal with and without contrast	74175	Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Renal Artery Stenosis Dissection Retroperitoneal Bleed	Trauma Abnormal U/S Post Stent Grafting Mesenteric Ischemia	Yes Contrast	Body