



Suggested MRI Ordering Guide

MR Angiogram

- For brain- order without contrast only
- For a screening neck- order without contrast only if abnormal prior exam (i.e. US) consider with contrast only
- For all other sites (neck, thoracic, and abdominal aorta or runo) - order with contrast only

Pelvis

- For female or male pelvic abnormalities-order pelvis-without and with contrast
- For suspected benign bone disease- order pelvis without

Extremities

- For internal derangement of Osteoarthritis joints/ trauma/ tendon pathology- order without contrast only
- For suspected infection or tumor- order without and with contrast

Spine

- For pain, radiculopathy-order without contrast only
- In patients with prior spine surgery, cord lesions or masses-order without and with contrast

Chest

- For muscle pain/tears- order without contrast only
- For chest wall mass- order without and with contrast
- Note: CT is preferred for most lung abnormalities due to respiratory motion occurring with MR; MR is best reserved for problem solving based on findings on prior CT exam.

Abdomen

- For abdominal pain- order without contrast
- For liver/pancreas/kidney abnormalities- order without and with contrast
- For adrenal mass- order without contrast only
- Note: Abdominal MR is best reserved for problem solving based on findings on prior CT exam; used to better characterize known lesion

Brain

- For dementia, trauma, suspected TIA/CVA-headache- order without contrast only
- For Bell's Palsy, Pituitary pathology, or history of cancer- order without and with contrast
- For orbital pathology- order "brain and orbits"- without and with contrast
- For tinnitus, loss of hearing, trigeminal neurology order brain IAC without contrast unless history of tumor



CHESAPEAKE MEDICAL IMAGING

MRI ORDERING GUIDE

- For known demyelinating disease follow-up- order without contrast only
- For demyelinating disease with acute or new symptoms- order without and with contrast

Soft Tissue Neck

- Neck muscle pain- order without contrast
- If mass, lymphadenopathy or history of neck cancers- order without and with contrast
- Note: CT is preferred for initial evaluation of neck masses except oropharyngeal

Suspected Bone Malignancy

- Suspected site of concern- order without contrast