

MRI / MRA Ordering & Pre-Certification Guide

BODY PART	REASON FOR EXAM	I.V. CONTRAST	AND/OR PRE-CERT	CPT CODE
Brain	Alzheimer's, Confusion, Dementia, Mental Status Change, TIA, Memory Loss, Trauma, Stroke/CVA	No	MRI Brain Without Contrast	70551
	Cranial Nerve Lesions, Dizziness, Vertigo, Headache, HIV, Infection, Hearing Loss/ IAC Mass, MS, Neurofibromatosis, Seizures, Pituitary Lesion, Elevated Prolactin, Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Visual Changes, Vascular Lesions, AVM	Yes	MRI Brain With & Without Contrast	70553
Orbit	Trauma	No	MRI Orbits/Face/Neck Without Contrast	70540
	Grave's Disease, Pseudotumor, Exophthalmos, Proptosis, Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets, Vascular Lesions(Hemangioma), Infection	Yes	MRI Orbits/Face/Neck With & Without Contrast	70543
Neck	Infection, Pain, Tumor, Mass Vocal Cord Paralysis	Yes	MRI Orbits/Face/Neck With & Without Contrast	70543
Mediastinum	Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets	Yes	MRI Chest/Mediastinum With & Without Contrast	71552
Brachial Plexus	Brachial Plexus Injury Nerve Avulsion	No	MRI Chest/Mediastinum Without Contrast	71550
Abdomen	Pain, Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets, Post Embolization, Cirrhosis, Hemangioma, Hepatoma Hepatitis, Renal Mass, Renal Carcinoma, Pancreatitis, Painless Hematuria, Pseudocyst	Yes	MRI Abdomen With & Without Contrast	74183
	Adrenal Mass	No	MRI Abdomen Without Contrast	74181
	Biliary Obstruction, Stones, Jaundice, Abnormal Enzymes	No	MRI Abdomen Without Contrast (MRCP)	74181
Pelvis	Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets, Pain, Abscess, Decubitus Ulcer, Fibroid, Adenomyosis, Pre/Post Fibroid Embolization, Ovarian Mass, Endometrioma	Yes	MRI Pelvis With & Without Contrast	72197
Cervical Spine	Arm/Shoulder Pain, Weakness, Degenerative Disease, Neck Pain, Disc Herniation, Radiculopathy	No	MRI Cervical Spine Without Contrast	72141
	Syrinx, Post-op Fusion, Discitis, Osteomyelitis, Myelopathy, MS, Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets	Yes	MRI Cervical Spine With & Without Contrast	72156
Thoracic Spine	Pain, Degenerative Disease, Disc Herniation, Radiculopathy, Trauma, Compression Fracture with no history of malignancy	No	MRI Thoracic Spine	72146
	Discitis, Post-op Fusion, Syrinx, Osteomyelitis, MS, Myelopathy Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets Compression Fracture WITH history of malignancy	Yes	MRI Thoracic Spine With & Without Contrast	72157
Lumbar Spine	Pain, Degenerative Disease, Trauma, Disc Herniation, Radiculopathy, Sciatica, Spondylolistesis Stenosis, Compression Fracture with no history of malignancy	No	MRI Lumbar Spine Without Contrast	72148
	Discitis, Osteomyelitis, Post-op, Tumor, Cancer, Mass, Mets, Epidural Abscess	Yes	MRI Lumbar Spine With & Without Contrast	72158
Extremity Non Joint	Fracture, Stress Fracture, Muscle/Tendon Tear	No	MRI Upper Extremity Without Contrast MRI Lower Extremity Without Contrast	73218 73718
	Abscess, Ulcer, Cellulitis, Fascitis, Myositis, Osteomyelitis, Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets, Soft Tissue Mass, Morton's Neuroma	Yes	MRI Upper Extremity With & Without Contrast MRI Lower Extremity With & Without Contrast	73220 73720

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MRI / MRA Ordering & Pre-Certification Guide *(continued)*

BODY PART	REASON FOR EXAM	I.V. CONTRAST	AND/OR PRE-CERT	CPT CODE
Extremity Joint	Arthritis, AVN, Stress Fracture, Internal Derangement, Pain, Labral Tear, Meniscal Tear, Muscle Tear, Ligament Tear, Cartilage Tear, Osteochondritis Dessicans (OCD)	No	MRI Upper Extremity Without Contrast MRI Lower Extremity Without Contrast	73222 73722
	Abscess, Ulcer, Cellulitis, Fascitis, Myositis, Osteomyelitis, Tumor, Mass Mets, Inflammatory Arthritis, Septic Arthritis	Yes	MRI Upper Extremity With & Without Contrast MRI Lower Extremity With & Without Contrast	73223 73723
Pelvis (Bony)	Fracture, Pain, Trauma, Muscle/Tendon Tear, AVN	No Without Contrast	MRI Pelvis	72195
	Tumor, Mass, Cancer, Mets Osteomyelitis, Septic Arthritis	Yes With & Without Contrast	MRI Pelvis	72917
MRA				
Brain MRA	Stroke, CVA, TIA, Aneurysm	No	MRA Brain Without Contrast	70544
MRA Neck	Bruit, Stroke, CVA	Yes	MRA Neck With & Without Contrast	70549
MRA Arch & Great Vessels	Stroke, CVA, Bruit, TIA	Yes	MRA With & Without Contrast	70549
MRV Brain	Venous Thrombosis	No	MRV Without Contrast	70544