



# CT Ordering Guide

## BODY

**Prep: NPO 2 hours for all studies W Contrast**

**Arrival time: 30 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep.**

**CT Chest WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71250 (IMG200)**

- Lung Nodules (may be done W Contrast if ordering MD desires)
- Pneumonia (may be done W Contrast if ordering MD desires)
- Pleural effusion (may be done W Contrast if ordering MD desires)
- COPD

**CT Chest WO Contrast (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 71250 (IMG200) & 76377**

- Airway imaging (inc. TBM), Tracheal stenosis, Tracheal malacia (Tracheal Tree)
- Redo sternotomy for patients who cannot have contrast
- Aortic or mitral valve for patients who cannot have contrast

**CT Chest High Resolution WO Contrast. . . . . CPT Code 71250 (IMG4142)**

- Interstitial Lung Disease

**CT Chest W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71260 (IMG202)**

- Lung Cancer (may be done W/O Contrast if ordering MD desires)
- Chest Wall Mass
- Mediastinal Mass/Abnormality
- Empyema
- Hilar Mass/Abnormality
- Aneurysm Follow-Up (size only)
- Chest Pain (may be done WO Contrast if ordering MD desires)
- Coarctation of the aorta
- Dissection (chest only, no 3D)

**CT Chest PE W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71260 (IMG3146)**

- Pulmonary embolism (PE)

**CT Lung Cancer Screening . . . . . CPT Code 71271 (IMG200A)**

- Lung cancer screening (WO Contrast)

**CT Chest W WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71270 (IMG203)**

- Dissection (if in conjunction with Abdomen and Pelvis CT W Contrast please see “CT Chest W WO and Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast (C)”, CPT Code 74177, IMG698)

**CTA Chest W Contrast (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 71275 (IMG2269)**

- Aortic or mitral valve
- Thoracic outlet syndrome
- Chronic PE
- Pulmonary AVM (including f/u)

**CT Abdomen WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74150 (IMG785)**

- Adrenal mass detection

**CT Abdomen W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74160 (IMG237)**

- Liver Mass Characterization/Surgical Planning
- Hepatitis/Cirrhosis/Cholangiocarcinoma
- Post treatment HCC (not for metastatic surveillance)

**Radiology Order Standards:**  
 Complete Provider/Office Contact Information  
 Pre-authorization Information  
 Indication (reason) for study  
 Previous adverse contrast events

To schedule any radiology exam, call 314-362-7111

**CT Abdomen W WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74170 (IMG238)**

- Renal Mass Characterization/Surgical Planning (if in conjunction with Pelvis CT W Contrast CPT Code 74178, IMG783)
- Pancreatic Mass Characterization/Surgical Planning (if in conjunction with Pelvis CT W Contrast CPT Code 74178, IMG783)
- Liver chemo embolization or RFA (if in conjunction with Pelvis CT W Contrast CPT Code 74178, IMG783)
- Adrenal Mass characterization

**CT Abdomen Pelvis WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74176 (IMG784)**

- Abdomen and pelvis patients who cannot have contrast

**CT Renal Stone . . . . . CPT Code 74176 (IMG4160)**

- Renal Stone/RP bleed

**CT EVT Abdomen Pelvis WO Contrast w 3D (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 74176 & 76377 (IMG995)**

- Pre and post endoluminal grafting-for patients who cannot have contrast

**CT Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74177 (IMG794)**

- Abdominal Pain/Abdominal mass/Malignancy
- Nausea and vomiting/Weight loss/Fever
- Diverticulitis/Appendicitis/Abscess/Acute pancreatitis
- Dissection
- Trauma/Bowel perforation
- Any other indication that is not already listed

**CT Abdomen and Pelvis Enterography W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74177 (IMG4166)**

- CT Enterography (Note: NPO 4 hours. Arrive 90 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep)

**CT Abdomen Pelvis W WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74178 (IMG783)**

- Ischemic Bowel
- GI bleeding Angiography

**CTA Abdomen (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 74175 (IMG4118)**

- Pre Liver transplant/Portal vein embolization
- Hepatic resection candidates
- Living Liver Donor

**CTA Abdomen Pelvis (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 74174 (IMG240)**

- Pre and Post endoluminal grafting/TAVI
- TRAM flap surgical planning
- Living Renal Donor
- Gated TAVI (if in conjunction with Heart CT W Contrast (Morphology), CPT Code 75572, IMG7603)

**CT Chest Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71260 &74177 (IMG2246)**

- Malignancy Staging/Malignancy follow-up Angiography

**CTA Chest Abdomen Pelvis (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 71275 & 74174 (IMG2232)**

- Pre and Post endoluminal grafting
- Minimally invasive cannulation

**CT EVT Chest Abdomen Pelvis WO Contrast w 3D (C) (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 71250 & 74176 (IMG994)**

- Pre and post endoluminal grafting for patients who cannot have contrast

**CT Colonoscopy Diagnostic WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 74261 (IMG1233)**

- Failed colonoscopy (if with IV contrast, CPT Code 74262, IMG2251)
- Patients that cannot be sedated or cannot stop blood thinners for conventional colonoscopy (if with IV contrast, CPT Code 74262, IMG2251)

**Urogram CT Abdomen and Pelvis W and W/O Contrast W/ 3D Reconstruction (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 74178 & 76377 (IMG7592)**

- Hematuria (if W/O 3D Reconstructions, CPT Code 74178, IMG2252) (Note: Instruct patient to arrive 45 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep)

**CTA Abdominal Aorta and Bilateral Iliofemoral Runoff (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 75635 (IMG1663)**

- CT AIF / Bypass evaluation/Cold leg/Leg ischemia

**To schedule any radiology exam, call 314-362-7111**

## CARDIAC

**Prep: Patient should not have caffeine 24 hours prior to exam.**

**NPO 2 hours for all studies W Contrast**

**Arrival time: 30 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep.**

**CTA Heart W Calcium Scoring . . . . . CPT Code 75574 (IMG2250)**

- Coronary artery disease/Bypass graft evaluation
- Chest pain suspected cardiac

**CT Heart Morphology W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 75572 (IMG2253)**

- Pulmonary venous mapping
- Pulmonary vein evaluation

**CT TAVR . . . . .CPT Code 75572 & 74174 (IMG7603)**

- Gated TAVI

## NEURO

**Prep: NPO 2 hours for all studies W Contrast**

**Arrival time: 30 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep.**

**CT Head WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70450 (IMG181)**

- Headache/Trauma/Stroke/TIA
- Dizziness/Intracranial bleed

**CT Head W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70470 (IMG182)**

- Mass/Metastatic disease

**CT Neck Soft Tissue W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70491 (IMG192)**

- Neck Mass/Malignancy Staging/Malignancy follow  
(if contrast is not desired, W/O Contrast CPT Code 70490, IMG191)

**CT Sinus WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70486 (IMG1245)**

- Acute or chronic Sinusitis/Nasal cavity polyps

**CT Orbits WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70480 (IMG2256)**

- Trauma/black eye/visual defects

**CT Facial Bones WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70486 (IMG188)**

- Trauma/ black eye/facial contusion/jaw injury

**CT Facial Bones W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70487 (IMG189)**

- Facial weakness/Neoplasm/Malignancy/Cellulitis/Abscess

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**CT Temporal Bones WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70480 (IMG2258)**

- Ear Disorder/Deafness/Acute Mastoiditis
- Trauma/ear injury
- Intraparenchymal hematoma

**CT Internal Auditory Canal Cochlear Implant WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 70480 (IMG4133)**

- Pre/Post cochlear implant

**CTA Head W WO Contrast (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 70496 (IMG786)**

- Intracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
- Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Arteriovenous malformation (AVM)

**CTA Head Neck W WO Contrast (with 3D reconstructions) . . . . . CPT Code 70496 and 70498 (IMG2228)**

- Extracranial Aneurysm/Stenosis/Dissection
- Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH)/Arteriovenous malformation (AVM)
- Penetrating neck injury
- Cervical Spine fracture

**CT Spine WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 72125 (C-Spine IMG207) or 72128 (T-Spine IMG210) or 72131(L-Spine IMG213)**

- Radiculopathy/Trauma/Pain

## MYELOGRAPHY

**Prep: NPO 4 hours; may drink clear liquids up to 30 minutes prior to exam**

**Arrival time: 30 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep.**

**CT Myelogram Cervical . . . . . CPT Code 72240 (IMG7604)  
(Precert CPT Code 72240 & 72126)**

- Problem cases unresolved by non-invasive imaging
- Patients with contraindications for MR
- Cervical myelopathy or radiculopathy in which fine bone detail is desired
- Presurgical planning and mapping

**CT Myelogram Thoracic . . . . . CPT Code 72255 (IMG7605)  
(Precert CPT Code 72255 & 72129)**

- Problem cases unresolved by non-invasive imaging
- Patients with contraindications for MR
- Thoracic myelopathy or radiculopathy in which fine bone detail is desired
- Presurgical planning and mapping

**CT Myelogram Lumbar . . . . . CPT Code 72265 (IMG214)  
(Precert CPT Code 72265 & 72132)**

- Problem cases unresolved by non-invasive imaging
- Patients with contraindications for MR
- Lumbar radiculopathy in which fine bone detail is desired
- Presurgical planning and mapping

**Myelogram with CT, 2-3 Regions. . . . . CPT Code 72270 (Precert CPT Code 72270 &  
depending on the desired level(s)  
72126, 72129, and/or 72132)**

- Problem cases unresolved by non-invasive imaging
- Patients with contraindications for MR
- Complex or nonfocal myelopathy or radiculopathy in which fine bone detail is desired
- Presurgical planning and mapping

## MUSCULOSKELETAL CT

**Prep: NPO 2 hours for all studies W contrast**

**Arrival time: 30 minutes prior to exam for registration and prep.**

## CHEST

**CT Chest Clavicles Sternum WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71250 (IMG4141)**

- Fracture
- Trauma

**CT Chest Clavicles Sternum W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 71260 (IMG4144)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection

## UPPER EXTREMITY

**CT Shoulder WO Contrast. . . . . CPT Code 73200 (LEFT: IMG1723, RIGHT: IMG1726)**

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Arthrodesis evaluation
- Arthroplasty loosening evaluation

**CT Shoulder W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73201 (LEFT: IMG1319, RIGHT: IMG1724)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**To schedule any radiology exam, call 314-362-7111**

**CT Arthrogram Shoulder (Arthrogram only; no IV contrast) . . . . . CPT Code 73201  
(LEFT: IMG2288, RIGHT: IMG2289)**

- Rotator cuff or labral injury, unable to get MRI
- Arthroplasty evaluation

**CT Humerus WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73200 (LEFT: IMG220, RIGHT: IMG221)**

- Fracture, trauma

**CT Humerus W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73201 (LEFT: IMG222, RIGHT: IMG223)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection

**CT Elbow WO Contrast. . . . . CPT Code 73200 (LEFT: IMG244, RIGHT: IMG194)**

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Arthrodesis evaluation
- Arthroplasty evaluation

**CT Elbow W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73201 (LEFT: IMG246, RIGHT: IMG1263)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**Arthrogram Elbow (Arthrogram only; no IV contrast). . . . . CPT Code 73201  
(LEFT: IMG94, RIGHT: IMG95)**

- Osteochondral lesion (OCD)
- Cartilage injury or repair
- Loose body

**CT Radius Ulna WO Contrast. . . . . CPT Code 73200 (LEFT: IMG1727, RIGHT: IMG1728)**

- Fracture, trauma

**CT Radius Ulna W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73201 (LEFT: IMG1729, RIGHT: IMG1730)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection

**CT Wrist WO Contrast. . . . . CPT Code 73200 (LEFT: IMG1733, RIGHT: IMG1734)**

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Arthrodesis evaluation

**CT Wrist W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73201 (LEFT: IMG1735, RIGHT: IMG1736)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**Arthrogram Wrist (Arthrogram only; no IV contrast)** . . . . . CPT Code 73201  
(LEFT: IMG106, RIGHT: IMG107)

- Ligament injury
- Triangular fibrocartilage (TFC) complex injury
- Articular cartilage injury

**CT Hand WO Contrast.** . . . . . CPT Code 73200  
(LEFT: IMG1739, RIGHT: IMG1740)

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Arthrodesis evaluation

**CT Hand W Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 73201  
(LEFT: IMG1024, RIGHT: IMG1741)

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

## PELVIS

**CT Pelvis WO Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 72192 (IMG217)

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Bone stock/bone graft harvest evaluation

**CT Sacrum Coccyx WO Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 72192 (IMG4154)

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Bone stock/bone graft harvest evaluation

**CT Pelvis W Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 72193 (IMG218)

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection

## LOWER EXTREMITY

**CT Hip WO Contrast.** . . . . . CPT Code 73700  
(LEFT: IMG1371, RIGHT: IMG1372, BILAT: IMG622)

- Fracture, trauma
  - Osteoarthritis (OA)
  - Arthrodesis evaluation
  - Arthroplasty evaluation

**CT Hip W Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 73701  
(LEFT: IMG230, RIGHT: IMG1381, BILAT: IMG623)

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**CT Arthrogram Hip (Arthrogram only; no IV contrast).** . . . . . CPT Code 73701  
(LEFT: IMG4099, RIGHT: IMG4100)

- Labral tear
- Articular cartilage injury

**CT Femur WO Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 73700  
(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG1373, RIGHT: IMG1374, BILAT: IMG601)

- Fracture, trauma

**CT Femur W Contrast.** . . . . . CPT Code 73701  
(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG1669, RIGHT: IMG1382, BILAT: IMG602)

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection

**CT Knee WO Contrast.** . . . . . CPT Code 73700  
(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG228, RIGHT: IMG229, BILAT: IMG670)

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Arthrodesis evaluation
- Arthroplasty evaluation

**CT Knee W Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 73701  
(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG1384, RIGHT: IMG231, BILAT: IMG671)

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**CT Arthrogram Knee (Arthrogram only; no IV Contrast)** . . . . . CPT Code 73701  
(LEFT: IMG4101, RIGHT: IMG4102)

- Meniscus tear or repair
- Cartilage injury or repair
- Osteochondral lesion (OCD)
- Loose body

**CT Tibia Fibula WO Contrast** . . . . . CPT Code 73700  
(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG2298, RIGHT: IMG2299, BILAT: IMG686)

- Fracture, trauma

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**CT Tibia Fibula W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73701**  
**(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG4109, RIGHT: IMG4110, BILAT: IMG687)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection

**CT Ankle WO Contrast (specify unilateral or bilateral) . . . . . CPT Code 73700**  
**(LEFT: IMG3143, RIGHT: IMG3144, BILAT: IMG586)**

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Arthrodesis evaluation
- Arthroplasty evaluation

**CT Ankle W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73701**  
**(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG2806, RIGHT: 2807, BILAT: IMG587)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**CT Arthrogram Ankle . . . . . CPT Code 73701**  
**(Arthrogram only; no IV contrast) (LEFT: IMG2808, RIGHT: IMG2809)**

- Osteochondral lesion (OCD)
- Cartilage injury or repair
- Loose body

**CT Foot WO Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73700**  
**(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG1377, RIGHT: IMG1378, BILAT: IMG604)**

- Fracture, trauma
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Evaluation

**CT Foot W Contrast . . . . . CPT Code 73701**  
**(specify unilateral or bilateral) (LEFT: IMG1380, RIGHT: IMG1671, BILAT: IMG606)**

- Mass/Tumor
- Infection (if concern for septic joint should be aspirated prior to CT)

**3D Reconstructions at an Independent Workstation**  
**(This code is not body part specific; it can be added**  
**as a separate order to any existing study . . . . . CPT Code 76377**

- Osteoarthritis (OA) prior to arthroplasty (commonly shoulder)
- Femoroacetabular impingement (FAI) or hip dysplasia
- Fracture (commonly glenoid, pelvic ring or acetabulum)

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### Premedication for Contrast Allergy

- Patients with hives or rash must be pre-medicated for an IV contrast CT scan (not oral contrast).
- Patients with vomiting or dizziness with IV contrast, or shellfish allergy do not require premedication.
- Patients with anaphylaxis or laryngeal edema should be discussed with radiologist before the exam and/or premedication is ordered.

### Premedication Protocol

- Prednisone: 50 mg PO (three doses total) to be taken 13 hours, 7 hours and 1 hour prior to appointment.
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl) (optional): 50 mg PO to be taken 1 hour prior to exam.

For questions regarding how to order any of the CT scans or how to reach the appropriate sub-specialty radiologist, please call

CT Coordinators at (314) 747-9647 or  
CT Charge Technologist at (314) 747-9696.

To schedule any radiology exam please call

Radiology Scheduling at  
314-362-7111 or 877-992-7111,  
7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Outpatient CT appointments are available  
7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday  
as well as weekend availability.

All exams are read by subspecialized radiologists from Washington University's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology.

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