### Commonly Ordered MRI Procedures and their indications

The procedures and indications below are guidelines for commonly ordered MRI procedures. If you have any questions in regards to ordering or scheduling an MRI procedure, please feel free to contact the MRI Department at 740–2661 or a Radiologist at 740–2692.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRI ABDOMEN – WITHOUT</th>
<th>MRI BRAIN (head) – WITHOUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MRICP (Magnetic Resonance Cholangio–Pancreatography)</td>
<td>May be without or with/without @ physician's request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Done to evaluate:</strong></td>
<td>Done for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Biliary tract, common bile duct</td>
<td>● Headaches (HA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Pancreatic duct</td>
<td>● Tremors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Gall bladder stones</td>
<td>● CVA or TIA (Stroke or mini stroke)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRI ABDOMEN-- WITH/WITHOUT</th>
<th>MRI BRAIN (head) -- WITH/WITHOUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Liver pathology (hemangiomas, masses, etc)</td>
<td>● MS (multiple sclerosis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Kidney pathology (cysts, tumors)</td>
<td>● CVA or TIA (stroke or mini stroke)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Adrenal pathology (cysts, tumors)</td>
<td>● Tumors, cancer or mets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Pancreas pathology (cysts, tumors)</td>
<td>● Seizures/epilepsy/Parkinsons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Splenic pathology (cysts, tumors)</td>
<td>● Lacunar infarction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Abd pain</td>
<td>● Hearing loss</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRI CHEST-- WITH/WITHOUT</th>
<th>MRI ORBIT/ FACE/NECK – WITH/WITHOUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CT is suggested for most evaluation of the Chest,</strong></td>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MRI Done for:</strong></td>
<td>● Any soft tissue mass in neck or face area or cancer in those areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Soft tissue masses in the chest/mediastinum area</td>
<td>● Parotid tumor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Mesothelioma</td>
<td>● Nasopharynx tumor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRI PELVIS-- WITHOUT</th>
<th>MRI BRAIN (head) WITHOUT contrast always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● SI joint pain</td>
<td>● Aneurysm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Pelvis fracture</td>
<td>● AVM (arterial venous malformation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Sacral and/or coccyx disorders</td>
<td>● CVA (stroke) TIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Cavernous angioma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRI PELVIS-- WITH/WITHOUT</th>
<th>MRA NECK-- WITH / WITHOUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Done for:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Ovarian or uterine pathology, fibroid tumors</td>
<td>● Carotid stenosis (blockage)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Bladder pathology</td>
<td>● Vertebral artery injury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Mass, Mets to bone</td>
<td>● Atherosclerotic disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● CA of Prostate</td>
<td>● CVA/TIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Plexus lesions</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**WITHOUT CONTRAST**

**MRI CERVICAL SPINE** – w/o
Done for:
- Neck pain (cervicalgia)
- HNP (herniated disk)
- Arm tingling/numbness/weakness/pain
- Cervical radiculopathy/radiculitis
- Stenosis
- Arthropathy

**MRI THORACIC SPINE** – w/o
Done for:
- Upper/mid back pain
- Compression fracture
- Osteoporosis
- Herniated disk
- Stenosis
- Radiculitis or radiculopathy

**MRI LUMBAR SPINE** – w/o
Done for:
- Low back pain (lumbago)
- HNP (herniated disk)
- Lumbar radiculopathy or radiculitis
- Lower extremity numbness/tingling/weakness
- Myelopathy
- Loss of bowel or bladder control
- Spinal stenosis

**MRI UPPER EXTREMITY**–
- Upper any joint= shoulder, elbow, or wrist
- Upper other than joint= humerus, forearm, or hand

All MRI extremities without
Done for:
- Pain
- Avn
- Muscle/ligament tear
- Injury
- Internal derangement
- Swelling
- Arthrosis
- Tendonditis

**ARHTHROGRAM** (Special Exam)
- This should be ordered as two part test:
- X-ray arthrogram shoulder, hip, elbow or wrist to be done first
- MRI Upper Extremity any Joint With to follow
- Arthrograms due not need creatinine prior

**WITH/WITHOUT CONTRAST**

**MRI CERVICAL SPINE** – w/ w/o
Done for:
- Cancer or mets
- Infection / abscess
- MS, hemipelgia/paresthesia
- Myelopathy
- Syrinx
- Tumor
- Surgery to c-spine within past 10yrs

**MRI THORACIC SPINE** – w/ w/o
Done for:
- Cancer or mets
- Surgery to t-spine within past 10yrs
- Multiple myeloma
- Infection / abscess
- MS (multiple sclerosis)
- Transverse myelitis
- Syrinx

**MRI LUMBAR SPINE** – w/ w/o
Done for:
- Cancer or mets
- Infection
- Abscess
- Mass
- Previous lumbar surgery within past 10yrs
- Cauda Equina syndrome

**MRI LOWER EXTREMITY**–
- Lower any joint= Knee, Hip or Ankle
- Lower other than joint= femur, Tib/Fib or foot

All MRI extremities with and without contrast
Done for:
- Cancer, tumors, or infection.
- Osteomyelitis
- Abscess
- Masses or soft tissue lumps

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Dr. Shawn Rayder, President
Seacoast Radiology

Wentworth-Douglass Hospital
DEPARTMENT OF IMAGING SERVICES
MRI ORDERING CHEAT SHEET

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