

GUIDELINES FOR ORDERING MRI versus CT

	MRI More Sensitive OR Indicated In Lieu of CT	MRI Equivalent OR Complementary to CT	CT More Sensitive OR Indicated In Lieu of MRI
Head and Neck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Stroke • AIDS Patients • Brain Tumor - Primary and Metastases • Chronic Headaches • Congenital Abnormalities • Dementia • Dementia - Rule out Mass • Hydrocephalus • Inflammatory Disease • Internal Auditory Canal • Multiple Sclerosis & White Matter Disease • Parkinson's Disease • Pituitary & Parasellar Pathology • Posterior Fossa & Brain Stem Pathology • Progressive Neurological Deficit • Salivary Gland Mass • Seizures • Vascular Malformations • Vertigo/Ataxia • Visual or Hearing Loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laryngeal Tumors • Lymphadenopathy • Neck, Tumor Staging • Salivary Glands - Calcifications • Sinuses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Onset of Severe Headaches • Acute Subarachnoid Hemorrhage • Acute Trauma • Chronic Sinusitis • Evaluation of Bony Detail • Small Calcified Lesions • Temporal Bone Pathology > Ossicles, Cholesteatoma
Spine and Spinal Cord	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1-C2 Subluxation & Basilar Invagination > Especially in Rheumatoid Arthritis • Congenital Abnormalities of Spinal Cord • Disc Pathology - Degenerative > Inflammatory > Disc Herniation > Post Operative • Diseases of the Spinal Cord > Multiple Sclerosis • Hydromyelia/Syringomyelia • Spinal Cord and Spine Trauma • Spinal Cord and Spine Tumors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinal Stenosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Trauma - Rule out Fracture • Bony Abnormalities • Congenital Anomalies of Bone • Degenerative Arthritic Disease of the Spine
Thorax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aortic Aneurysm Follow Up • Cardiac Masses • Congenital Heart Disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediastinal Masses • Pericardial Disease • Thoracic Outlet Syndrome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aortic Aneurysm - Initial Diagnosis • Aortic Dissection • Evaluation of Lung Pathology (Nodes, Masses, etc.) • Hilar Masses • Parenchymal Changes (Pulmonary Fibrosis) • Pleural Disease
Abdomen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diaphragmatic & Subdiaphragmatic Pathology • IVC - Thrombosis or Tumor • Liver - Metastases > Hemangliomas > Thrombosis of Hepatic Vein, Portal Vein • Renal Tumor - Staging • Status of Renal Transplant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adrenal Mass Disease • Aortic Aneurysm • Aortic Dissection • Liver Pathology • Oncology Patient for Evaluation of Residual Disease Versus Fibrosis • Pancreatic Pathology • Renal Pathology • Splenic Pathology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abscess • Acute Intra-Abdominal Bleeding • Clinically Suspected Abdominal Mass • Gallbladder Tumor - Staging • Retroperitoneum of Lymphadenopathy
Pelvis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cervical Carcinoma - Staging • Endometrical Carcinoma - Staging • Endometriosis • Pelvic Floor Dysfunction • Prostrate Carcinoma - Staging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bladder Carcinoma - Staging • Presacral Tumor • Rectal Carcinoma - Staging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendicitis • Diverticulitis • Pelvic Lymphadenopathy
Musculo-skeletal system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aseptic Necrosis of Any Bone • Bone - Neoplasm Staging > Metastatic Disease > Osteomyelitis • Bone Marrow Disorders • Knee-Menisal, Cartilaginous, Ligamentous Injuries > Baker's Cyst or Other Pathology • Shoulder - Rotator Cuff Tears (Arthrogram) > Joint Effusion & Other Pathology • Soft Tissue - Tumors/Injury • Soft Tissue Injury Around Any Joint • TMJ - Internal Derangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Bony Injury, Especially Pelvic and Spine Fractures • Osseous Coalitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calcific Matrix of Bone Lesions • Initial Evaluation of Fractures > Carpal-Metacarpal Joint > Tarsal-Metatarsal Joint