

Neuro Imaging

CT–CPT Quick Reference

STUDY	CPT DESCRIPTION	CPT CODE	INDICATIONS FOR EXAM OR STUDY		CONTRAST REQUIRED?	SPECIALTY
CT HEAD	CT Head or brain without contrast	70450	Trauma Headaches CVA Stroke/Bleed Alzheimer's Memory loss/confusion	Shunt Check Hydrocephalus TIA Change in mental status Dizziness/Vertigo	No	Neuro
	CT Head or brain with and without contrast <i>Note: MRI brain with/without contrast is preferred.</i>	70470	Metastases/Known cancer Intracranial infection <i>Note: CT can be used if there are contraindications for MRI.</i>	HIV	Yes	Neuro
CTA HEAD Circle of Willis	CTA Head with and without contrast <i>Note: MRA Brain without contrast is preferred.</i>	70496	Aneurysm Family history of aneurysm <i>Note: CT can be used if there are contraindications for MRI.</i>	3rd nerve palsy Vascular malformation	Yes	Neuro
CT ORBITS	CT Orbits/Sella/Posterior fossa or ear without contrast	70480	Trauma Fracture	Foreign body Bony abnormalities	No	Neuro
	CT Orbits/Sella/Posterior fossa or ear with and without contrast	70482	Infection Abscess/Cellulitis	Pain Mass/Tumor/Cancer	Yes	Neuro
CT SINUS	CT Maxillofacial without contrast	70486	Sinusitis Mass Pain Foreign body	Congestion Nasal polyps Deviated septum Sinus headache	No	Neuro
CT FACE From orbits to mandible	CT Maxillofacial without contrast	70486	Trauma Pain	Fracture Bony abnormality	No	Neuro
	CT Maxillofacial with contrast	70487	Tumor Swelling/Mass in face	Infection Abscess	Yes	Neuro
CT TEMPORAL BONES/MASTOIDS	CT Orbits/Sella/Posterior fossa or ear without contrast	70480	Conductive hearing loss Tinnitus (ringing in ears) Cholesteatoma	Drainage in ear Mass Fracture	No	Neuro
	CT Orbits/Sella/Posterior fossa or ear with and without contrast <i>Note: MRI is usually preferred.</i>	70482	Acoustic neuroma/sensorineural hearing loss <i>Note: CT can be used if there are contraindications for MRI.</i>		As Determined by Radiologist	Neuro
CT NECK	CT Soft tissue neck with contrast	70491	Focal Mass Swollen lymph nodes Lymphoma	Dysphagia Goiter Esophageal cancer	Yes	Neuro
	CT Soft tissue neck with and without contrast	70492	Salivary gland stone		As Determined by Radiologist	Neuro
CTA NECK ARTERIES	CT Angiography neck with and without contrast	70498	Carotid stenosis Stroke/CVA/TIA	Bruit Abnormal carotid sonogram	Yes	Neuro
CT SPINE	CT Cervical without contrast	72125	Pain	Fracture	No	Neuro
	CT Thoracic without contrast	72128	Trauma	Post-op/Fusion		
	CT Lumbar without contrast	72131	Degenerative disc disease			