



Radiology Services & Diagnostic Imaging

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Ordering Guidelines for Nuclear Medicine Examinations

Updated 4/2021

Scan	Reason for Exam	Procedure to Pre-Cert	CPT Code
Bone Scan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Detection of bone metastasis -Diagnosis of Osteomyelitis* -Evaluation of musculoskeletal trauma -Assessment of low back pain -Evaluation of primary benign and malignant bone lesions -Diagnosis of reflex sympathetic dystrophy* -Evaluation of the response of Paget's disease to treatment -Evaluation of heterotopic ossification -Avascular necrosis* -Evaluate prosthesis loosening * <p>* 3-Phase study for these indications</p>	NM BONE SCAN W/ SPECT or,	78803
		NM BONE SCAN 3 PHASE or,	78300
		NM BONE IMG WHOLE BODY	78306
Cisternogram/CSF Leak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Differential diagnosis and localization of CSF leaks -Evaluation of suspected Hydrocephalus -Evaluation/function of ventriculoperitoneal (VP) shunts 	NM CISTERNOGRAPHY	78630
Evaluation for Infection/Tumor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Elevated white cell count. -Sepsis/fever of unknown origin 	NM TUMOR IMAGING WHOLE BODY or, NM TUMOR IMAGING LIMITED	78806 78805
Gastric Emptying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Evaluation of gastric function -Diagnosis of dysmotility 	NM GASTRIC EMPTYING	78264
GI Bleed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Investigate the location, frequency and extent of bleeding that may be occurring in the gastrointestinal tract. 	NM GI BLEED	78278

<p>Hepatobiliary (HIDA scan)</p>	<p>Done to evaluate the gallbladder and bile ducts for signs of inflammation, obstruction, function or leakage. Elevated bilirubin is a common precursor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Diagnosis of acute Cholecystitis -Evaluation of extrahepatic biliary tree obstruction -Evaluation of the post-surgical biliary tree -Detection of biliary leaks -Diagnosis of biliary atresia -Evaluation of post liver transplant patients -Diagnosis of focal nodular hyperplasia -Evaluation of functional hepatobiliary disease 	<p>NM HEPATOBILIARY or,</p> <p>NM HEPATOBILIARY W/ CHOLECYSTOKININ</p>	<p>78226</p> <p>78227</p>
<p>Liver and/or Spleen Scan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Detection and/or evaluation of focal lesions such as primary or metastatic malignancy, abscesses or cysts -Evaluation of diffuse hepatic disease; i.e. hepatitis, cirrhosis 	<p>NM LIVER/SPLEEN IMAGING or,</p> <p>NM LIVER/SPLEEN IMAGING W/ FLOW</p>	<p>78215</p> <p>78216</p>
<p>Lung Scan (Ventilation/Perfusion [VQ] scan)</p>	<p>Used to examine airflow (ventilation) and blood flow (perfusion) in the lungs. The aim of the scan is to look for evidence of any blood clot (pulmonary embolism) in the lungs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Chest pain -SOB -Symptomatic patients allergic to iodinated (CT) contrast 	<p>NM LUNG PERFUSION or,</p> <p>NM LUNG PERFUSION W/ VENTILATION</p>	<p>78580</p> <p>78582</p>
<p>Meckel's Scan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Done to assist in diagnosing the cause of abdominal pain or occult gastrointestinal (GI) bleeding -Used to assess the presence and size of a congenital anomaly (commonly, a Meckel's diverticulum) of the GI tract. -Commonly diagnosed as a child 	<p>NM MECKELS IMAGING</p>	<p>78290</p>
<p>MUGA Scan</p>	<p>A multi-gated acquisition (MUGA) scan is a test used to examine the lower chambers of the heart (the ventricles). It shows how well the ventricles pump blood (aka cardiac ejection fraction).</p>	<p>NM MUGA</p>	<p>78472</p>

Myocardial Perfusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Detection of CAD -Assessing prognosis in patients with CAD -Pre-op clearance 	NM CARD PERF-STRES/RST or,	78451
		NM CARD PERF STRES&REST	78452
Parathyroid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Detect and localize parathyroid adenomas -Hypercalcemia 	NM PARATHYROID SCAN or,	78070
		NM PARATHYROID SCAN W/ SPECT	78071
Renal Scan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hydronephrosis -Obstruction -Evaluate renal function -Post surgical evaluation of renal failure -Acute pyelonephritis -Renal scarring -Horseshoe kidneys -Allergy to iodinated (CT) contrast 	NM RENAL SCAN or,	78708
		NM RENAL SCAN W/ LASIX	78708 (SAME CPT CODE W/ OR WO LASIX)
Thyroid Uptake and Scan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Evaluation of hyperthyroidism, glandular enlargement or nodules -Evaluate patients with history of head and/or neck irradiation as a child -Evaluate for ectopic thyroid, thyroid dysgenesis or other causes for congenital hypothyroidism 	NM THYROID SCAN AND UPTAKE or,	78012
		NM I-123/i-131 WHOLE BODY SCAN	78018