

**Rule Category**

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المظلة هيلثكير مانجمنت
ALMADALLAH
HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Guidelines

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Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Lumbar /Servical

MRI IS a non-invasive diagnostic tool that uses radio waves and a magnetic field to produce detailed images of a region of the body.

Indication :

1-Medical emergencies :

Such as :

(spinal cord compression , which required immediate surgical intervention)

2- infections or tumors :

Indicated due to presence of tumor, patient symptoms such as :

(Older adults, gradual increase in pain, history of cancer, unintentional weight loss, no relief with bed rest or conservative therapy, > 1 month of pain)

Presence of infections :

History of IV drug use; recent Travel (especially a major risk factor for tuberculosis or Pott disease); history of urinary tract or skin infection

In case of malignancy and infection we complete work up by :

Chest x-ray , blood test ,etc.)

3-Radiculopathies :

Sever Back pain caused by suspected spinal nerve compression , such as :

(spinal stenosis , herniated discs)

Symptoms : back or leg pain relived by sitting

4-Recurrent or chronic symptoms :

Incomplete improvement of pain after the first line management

(i.e. pain relieving medication , NASID , physiotherapy)

After failed conservative management for 2 to 5 months and according severity of pain

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Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

5-Progressively worsening symptoms:

Recurrent pain related symptoms of weakness and numbness

6- fractures or trauma :

• compression fracture : presence

Older adults, women, osteoporotic, often history of mild trauma or no history of trauma

• traumatic fracture

7-postsurgical or post procedure evaluation

8-Cauda Equina syndrome:

symptoms of (Bladder dysfunction (usually urinary retention or overflow incontinence) with leg pain and weakness)

9-Ankylosing spondylitis

Presence :

Younger age, morning stiffness, improvement of pain with exercise, pain > 3 month , pain not relieved in supine position

Contraindication of spinal MRI :

Spinal MRI scan may not be performed when one or more of the following devices are implanted in the body.

1. Cardiac pacemakers or implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) devices
2. Spinal cord stimulators (SCS)
3. Cochlear implants (Device that assist hard-of-hearing or deaf people)
4. Dental materials:(such as braces, retainers, fixed appliances, metallic fillings)
5. Aneurysm clips or coils
6. Pregnancy

Contraindications for Spinal MRI with Contrast

1. Patient on dialysis
2. Patients with a history of kidney disease (renal transplant, single kidney, renal cancer)Patients with impaired kidney function may develop nephrogenic systemic fibrosis (NSF), caused by the breakdown of contrast agent in the kidney)
3. Breastfeeding

Repeated MRI :

1. Malignancy
2. Complete of first and second line management without improvement (7month to 1 year , at least 6 months according to DHA guideline)

Approval requirement in case of trauma :

1. type of trauma (when , where , how)
2. neurological finding
3. done x-ray , provide x-ray

Approval in case of spinal pain without trauma :

1. Onset and duration of the condition
2. Conservative management done and for how long and how was the response?
3. Complete physical examination and neurological findings
4. Signs and symptoms of severe radiculopathy or spinal stenosis

CPT	Description
72141	MRI of cervical spine, without contrast
72142	MRI of cervical spine, with contrast
72156	MRI of cervical spine, without contrast, followed by re-imaging with contrast

CPT	Description
72148 or 72149	Lumbar Spine w/o Contrast
72158	Lumbar Spine without contrast material, followed by contrast material

References

Clinical guidelines: Indications for MRI - Orthopedic Institute of ... (no date). Available at: <https://oip.com/content/uploads/2017/03/Clinical-Guidelines-MRI-9-26-2014.pdf> (Accessed: March 31, 2023).