

DEM CT Scan of Abdomen Guidelines

1. R/O Ruptured/Leaking Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)

- non-contrasted study

2. R/O Appendicitis

- Initiation of oral contrast 1 hour prior to study
- Contrast given at time zero, 30 minutes, and 1 hour
- If unable to administer oral / NG contrast, patient may be given rectal contrast
- IV contrast given by Radiology

3. R/O Blunt Intra-Abdominal Injury

- IV contrast given by radiology

4. R/O Diverticulitis / Colitis

- Initiation of oral contrast 3 hours prior to study
- Contrast given at time zero, 30 minutes, 1 hour and 2 hours
- If unable to administer oral / NG contrast, patient may be given rectal contrast
- IV contrast given by Radiology

5. R/O Kidney Stone

- Non-contrasted study

IMPORTANT POINTS of CONSIDERATION:

1. Please communicate clearly/completely with Radiology regarding patient's clinical status and primary differential diagnosis.
2. Avoid unnecessary ordering of plain films in patients where abdominal CT scanning is clearly indicated.