

PHYSICIAN QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Eastern
Health

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES URGENCY CLASSIFICATION DESCRIPTIONS

Urgency	Description	Acceptable Time Frame
Priority 1 Urgent	Conditions for which there is potential for deterioration and/or deficit and for which the diagnostic procedure facilitates clinical diagnosis and management.	0-14 days
Priority 2 Non Urgent	Conditions for which the procedure facilitates patient health care planning. Routine appointment scheduling does not adversely affect patient outcomes.	0-30 days
Priority 3 Follow-up	Conditions for which patient management requires subsequent examinations.	Variable
Priority 4 Screening	Conditions for which a screening examination is requested for a specific future date, as recommended for population health.	Variable

Developed in collaboration with the NLAR by the Diagnostic Imaging Waitlist Management Committee, Eastern Health, May 2007

Canadian Association of Radiologists Diagnostic Imaging Referral Guidelines (2005) are available to referring physicians online at <http://www.cma.ca>.

RISK FACTORS FOR ACUTE OR CHRONIC RENAL IMPAIRMENT AND/OR DEVELOPMENT OF CIN¹

Contrast Induced Nephropathy (CIN) is defined as a deterioration of renal function (> 25% rise in serum Creatinine (SCr)) that occurs 24 to 48 hours following intravascular contrast media (CM) without other definable cause. **Pre-existing renal failure** is the most important risk factor. Other risk factors include:

- Age >70 years
- Diabetes mellitus
- Renal disease
- Solitary kidney
- Sepsis
- Acute hypotension
- Nephrotoxic drugs (*loop diurectics, amphotercin B, aminoglycosides, vancomycin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, cancer and immune suppressant chemotherapy*)
- Dehydration
- Volume contraction
- Organ transplant
- Previous chemotherapy
- Human immunodeficiency syndrome or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome cardiovascular disease (*hypertension, congestive heart disease, cardiac or peripheral vascular disease*)

¹ Canadian Association of Radiologists: Guidelines for the Prevention of Contrast Induced Nephropathy, 2006. (http://www.car.ca/EN/About_the_CAR/Standards_and_Guidelines/library/Nephropathy.pdf)

