

Emergency Department CT Request Protocol

Purpose: This protocol will enable the emergency radiology service to function more effectively and efficiently by:

- Allowing the radiologist to triage and prioritize patients to ensure that the most critical patients are scanned first.
- To assure that the appropriate imaging study as requested is obtained and properly protocolled.
- Ensuring that the radiologist is aware of pending studies so that they can be interpreted in a timely fashion.

Procedure:

When ordering an emergency scan from the ER:

1. The referring service will contact the ER radiology resident (pager 1931) to relay the patient's name, location and the study requested.
2. The referring service will enter orders for requested study into the Electronic Health Record (Pelican).
3. The radiology resident then contacts the CT technologist to relay this information and to make sure that the study is probably triaged and protocolled.

Note: Under **NO** circumstances should patient's care be delayed during this communication process. If the technologist receives the order before being contacted by the radiology resident, they should immediately inform the radiology resident. The technologist should proceed with the study ASAP while the radiology resident obtains the relevant information from the referring service.

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