

 University Health™	Policy #: 13.11
SUBJECT: Computed Tomography Clinical Imaging Policy	Effective:02/16/2017 Reviewed:
APPROVED BY: Radiology Technical Director	Page 1 of 1

1. **Purpose:** To provide a method for ensuring clinical and technical diagnostic imaging continuity
2. **Scope:** All UH Shreveport CT staff technologists
3. **Responsibility:** Section medical director, section manager and medical physicist
4. **Procedure:** To establish protocols that generate a diagnostic image using the lowest dose possible. Imaging protocols are to be reviewed and kept current, with input from a supervising radiologist, medical physicist, and section manager to make certain they adhere to current standards of practice accounting for changes and updates in CT imaging techniques and equipment. The supervising radiologist, medical physicist, and section manager should review all protocols and policies on an annual basis. Once review is completed and necessary revisions (if any) have been made, the reviewers will sign the signature page denoting date of revision. Reviewed and revised documents will be uploaded to the UH Shreveport Radiology Department website.

A protocol should include at least the following elements:

- Clinical indication for exam
- Scanner acquisition settings (routine kVp, mA/mass/Effective mAs, collimation (N x T), pitch, rotation time, usage of radiation dose reduction methods (Automatic Exposure Control such as tube current modulation, settings for dose reduction methods, etc.)
- Phase of respiration
- Reconstruction settings (reconstructed image width, slice thickness), reconstruction interval, reconstruction kernel/filter, reconstructed field of view (FOV)
- Anatomical coverage (i.e. lung apices to lung bases, top of diaphragm to iliac crest, etc.)
- IV contrast (with injection rate and scan delay) if applicable
- Oral contrast or other prep if applicable

5. References

- ACR PRACTICE PARAMETER FOR PERFORMING AND INTERPRETING DIAGNOSTIC COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY (CT)
- <https://www.acr.org/~media/ADECC9E11A904B4D8F7E0F0BCF800124.pdf>
- The Joint Commission Diagnostic Imaging Requirements
https://www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/AHC_DiagImagingRpt_MK_20150806.pdf standard PC 01.03.01
- Standardization and Optimization of Computed Tomography Protocols to Achieve Low-Dose
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3969855/>