ACR Appropriateness Criteria® cervical pain or cervical radiculopathy.

Guideline ID: 684 Published: 2024

American College of Radiology (ACR)

Eldaya RW, Parsons MS, Hutchins TA, et al. ACR Appropriateness Criteria® cervical pain or cervical radiculopathy. Reston (VA): American College of Radiology (ACR); 2024. 35 p. [162 references]

View Original Guideline

Overview

Guideline Objective

To provide recommendations for the appropriate use of imaging in the diagnosis and evaluation of cervical pain or cervical radiculopathy

Patient Population

Adult patients with cervical pain or cervical radiculopathy

Recommendations

Recommendation Statements

Major interventions covered in this guideline include:

- Radiography
- Radiographic myelography
- Discography
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- MR angiography (MRA)
- Computed tomography (CT)
- CT myelography
- CT angiography (CTA)
- Bone scan with single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) or SPECT/CT
- Fluorine-18-2-fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose-positron emission tomography (FDG-PET)/MRI
- FDG-PET/CT
- Fluoride PET/CT
- Gallium scan
- White blood cell (WBC) scan
- Appropriate use of intravenous (IV) contrast for MRI, MRA, CT, and CTA

Note: Full recommendation statements have not been provided because this guideline does not meet EGT's systematic review of the evidence criteria. Refer to the original guideline for more information.

Evidence Rating Scheme

Refer to the original guideline documentation for more information.

Recommendation Rating Scheme

Refer to the original guideline documentation for more information.

Related Content

Supporting Documents

- Appendix.
- Evidence Table; 2024.
- Literature Search; 2023 Apr 4.
- ACR Appropriateness Criteria® Methodology; 2021 Nov 1.

Implementation Tools

No implementation tools available.

Patient Education

- Patient-Friendly Summary; 2020 May.

Note: This patient information is intended to help patients better understand their health and their diagnosed disorders. Patients and their representatives should still consult with a licensed health care professional for evaluation of treatment options as well as answers to their personal medical questions.

Disclaimer

If you desire to use content from the original clinical practice guideline cited herein, you must contact the guideline developer directly to obtain permission rights.

ECRI's Guideline Profiles are designed to provide information and assist decision-making. Variations in practice will inevitably, and appropriately, occur when clinicians take into account the needs and preferences of individual patients, available resources, and limitations unique to an institution or type of practice. Every healthcare professional using

these Guideline Profiles is responsible for evaluating the appropriateness of applying them in a clinical setting.

Copyright © 2025 ECRI