

APPROPRIATENESS CRITERIA FOR CHEST PATHOLOGY

CT CHEST

Clinical Condition: Hemoptasis

Radiologic Procedure	Rating	Comments
X-ray chest	9	
CT chest with contrast	8	
CT chest without contrast	6	

Clinical Condition: Acute Respiratory Illness

Radiologic Procedure	Rating	Comments
X-ray chest	8	
CT chest without contrast	4	

Clinical Condition: Chronic Dyspnea

Radiologic Procedure	Rating	Comments
X-ray chest	8	

Clinical Condition: Screening for Metastasis

Radiologic Procedure	Rating	Comments
CT chest without contrast	9	
X-ray chest	9	
MRI chest	1	
PET	5	

Clinical Condition: Solitary Pulmonary Nodule more that 1 cm

Radiologic Procedure	Rating	Comments
CT chest without contrast	8	
FDG-PET	8	
Transthoracic needle biopsy	8	If the nodule enhances with contrast or if PET positive
CT chest with contrast	6	

Clinical Condition: Staging Bronchogenic CA

Radiologic Procedure	Rating	Comments
CT chest with contrast	9	(Preferable)
CT chest without contrast	9	
X-ray chest	8	
FDG-PET	8	
MRI head without & with contrast	7	
CT abd without & with contrast	5	
CT head without & with contrast	5	(if MRI contraindicated)
Tc-99m bone scan	5	(if PET is done – not indicated)
MRI chest with contrast	3	

RATING SCALE:

- 1, 2, 3 Usually not appropriate
- 4, 5, 6 May be appropriate
- 7, 8, 9 Usually appropriate