

## PROTOCOL OVERVIEW

This Clinical Protocol advises on indications and guidelines for Chest CT Scan.

## INDICATIONS

### I. Clinical Indications for Procedure

a. Chest CT scan may be indicated for **1 or more** of the following:

i. Abnormal chest x-ray findings, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:

1. Persistent atelectasis
2. Lung mass or multiple nodules
3. Hilar adenopathy, or mediastinal mass or enlargement
4. Pleural thickening or pleural plaque or effusion
5. Pleural effusion poorly responsive to drainage and other conservative treatments
6. Cystic or cavitory lesion, BP fistula, abscess
7. Interstitial or other systemic lung disease pattern (e.g., reticular, bronchial wall thickening, honeycombing)

ii. Initial evaluation of solitary pulmonary nodule noted on plain chest x-ray

iii. Interval follow-up of benign-appearing solitary pulmonary nodule less than 10 mm in size

iv. Chest trauma

v. For anatomic guidance during percutaneous, pleural, lung, or mediastinal biopsy or percutaneous drainage of lung abscess

vi. Nonspecific chest x-ray finding in febrile neutropenic patient

vii. Suspected bronchopleural fistula

viii. Chest wall soft tissue mass or other chest pathology

ix. Dyspnea (shortness of breath)

x. Esophageal trauma or perforation, suspected or known, and additional information required beyond general clinical assessment and endoscopy

xi. Hemoptysis

xii. Pneumonia

xiii. Suspected or confirmed pulmonary tuberculosis

xiv. Interstitial lung disease

xv. Post bone marrow transplant

xvi. Post lung transplant

xvii. Suspected bronchiectasis signs or symptoms, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:

1. Chronic cough
2. Fetid breath
3. Sputum production
4. Chronic respiratory infections
5. Hemoptysis
6. Cough-induced fracture of ribs

xviii. Collagen vascular disease

xix. Cystic fibrosis

- xx. Pneumoconiosis
- xxi. Cancer
- xxii. Clinical suspicion of superior vena cava syndrome (i.e., venous obstruction by tumor)
- xxiii. Other cancer of adjacent structure, or metastatic or extending to lung
- xxiv. Chronic cough persisting more than 3 weeks, hemoptysis or unexplained dyspnea
- xxv. Estimation of postoperative pulmonary function reserve, prior to anticipated resection, and nuclear medicine perfusion scanning indeterminate
- xxvi. Preoperative planning for patient with primary hyperparathyroidism, and sestamibi nuclear scan positive for mediastinal location of adenoma

## CITATION

Milliman Care Guidelines, “Ambulatory Care”, “Chest CT Scan”, 23<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2/26/2019