

Guidelines for Ordering Ultrasounds

Ultrasound Exam	Body Parts Included	Common Indications	Exam Preparations
Thyroid or Soft Tissue Neck CPT: 76536	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thyroid gland • Cervical lymph nodes • Focused ultrasound to the area of concern 	Goiter Hypothyroidism Hyperthyroidism Thyroid nodule(s) Follow-up thyroid nodule(s) Cervical lymphadenopathy	NO PREP
Carotid CPT: 93880	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral carotid artery • Duplex / Doppler 	TIA Stroke HTN Atherosclerotic disease	NO PREP
Abdomen Complete CPT: 76700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreas • Liver • Gallbladder • Bile duct • Right kidney • Left kidney • Spleen • Aorta (Limited) • IVC (Limited) 	Abdominal pain, unspecified Epigastric pain Flank pain Nonspecific abdominal symptoms	Fast for 6 hours
RUQ Ultrasound (Abdomen, Limited) CPT: 76705	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreas • Liver • Gallbladder • Bile duct • Right kidney • Aorta (Limited) • IVC (Limited) 	RUQ pain Epigastric pain Abnormal LFTs Jaundice Liver abnormality seen on other imaging HCC screening	Fast for 6 hours
Liver Ultrasound (Abdomen, Limited with Complete Doppler) CPT: 76705 93975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreas • Liver • Gallbladder • Bile duct • Right kidney • Aorta (Limited) • IVC (Limited) • Complete Doppler of the hepatic vasculature (hepatic veins, hepatic artery, portal vein) 	Hepatic cirrhosis Chronic viral hepatitis Portal hypertension Hemochromatosis	Fast for 6 hours
Liver Elastography (With Right Upper Quadrant Ultrasound and Complete Doppler) CPT: 76705 93975 76981	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreas • Liver • Gallbladder • Bile duct • Spleen • Aorta (Limited) • IVC (Limited) • Complete Doppler of the hepatic vasculature (hepatic veins, hepatic artery, portal vein) 	Hepatic cirrhosis Chronic viral hepatitis Steatohepatitis Fatty liver disease Liver staging *US of choice to evaluate hepatic fibrosis	Fast for 6 hours
Ultrasound Aorta Diagnostic (Retroperitoneum, Limited) CPT: 76775	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aorta 	Pulsatile abdominal mass AAA follow-up	Fast for 6 hours
Ultrasound Aorta Screening (Retroperitoneum, Limited) CPT: 76706	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aorta 	AAA screening Family history	Fast for 6 hours
Kidneys Ultrasound (Retroperitoneum, Limited) CPT: 76775	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right kidney • Left kidney <p><i>Not included:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinary bladder 	Flank pain Hematuria Kidney stones Renal cysts Renal abnormality seen on other imaging Renal disease (CKD) UTI	NO PREP
Kidney Ultrasound and Renal Arteries WITH Complete Doppler CPT: 76775 93975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right kidney • Left kidney • Complete Doppler of the renal arteries, renal veins and intrarenal vessels 	Primary hypertension	Fast for 6 hours

Guidelines for Ordering Ultrasounds

Ultrasound Exam	Body Parts Included	Common Indications	Exam Preparations
Kidneys Ultrasound and Bladder CPT: 76770	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right kidney • Left kidney • Urinary bladder • Post void residual 	Hematuria UTI Post void residual Incontinence	The patient must finish drinking 3 (8 OZ) glasses of any liquid 1 hour prior to appointment and not empty bladder. The patient may eat.
Bladder Ultrasound CPT: 76857	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinary bladder • Post void residual 	Post void residual Incontinence	The patient must finish drinking 3 (8 OZ) glasses of any liquid 1 hour prior to appointment and not empty bladder. The patient may eat.
Pelvic Ultrasound Transvaginal AND Transpelvic WITHOUT Doppler (<18 Years Old Transpelvic Only) CPT: 76856 76830	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral ovaries • Bilateral adnexa • Uterus 	Dysfunctional uterine bleeding Post menopausal bleeding Uterine fibroids Ovarian adnexal cysts, mass Ovarian / adnexal abnormality seen on other imaging Pelvic mass Polycystic ovary disease Ovarian follicles monitoring	The patient must finish drinking 3 (8 OZ) glasses of any liquid 1 hour prior to appointment and not empty bladder. The patient may eat.
Pelvic Ultrasound Transvaginal AND Transpelvic WITH Doppler CPT: 76856 76830 93975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral ovaries • Bilateral adnexa • Uterus 	Suspected ovarian torsion	The patient must finish drinking 3 (8 OZ) glasses of any liquid 1 hour prior to appointment and not empty bladder. The patient may eat.
OB < 14 Weeks (Includes Transvaginal AND Transpelvic) CPT: 76815 76817	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral ovaries • Bilateral adnexa • Uterus 	Viability Dating	The patient must finish drinking 3 (8 OZ) glasses of any liquid 1 hour prior to appointment and not empty bladder. The patient may eat.
Scrotal Ultrasound WITHOUT Doppler CPT: 76870	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral testicles • Bilateral epididymitis 	Scrotal lump / mass / swelling Hydrocele Varicocele Undescended testicle	NO PREP
Scrotal Ultrasound WITH Complete Doppler CPT: 76870 93975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral testicles • Bilateral epididymitis • Testicular vasculature 	Suspected torsion Scrotal pain Scrotal trauma	NO PREP
Venous Upper / Lower Extremity Unilateral CPT: 93971 Bilateral CPT: 93970	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venous Duplex / Doppler 	DVT Limb pain / swelling	NO PREP
Hernia / Palpable Abnormality			
Abdominal Hernia (Abdomen Limited) CPT: 76705	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused ultrasound to the area of concern 	Umbilical Hernia	NO PREP
Inguinal Hernia (Extremity, Nonvascular) CPT: 76882	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused ultrasound to the area of concern 	Inguinal Hernia	NO PREP
Chest / Upper Back CPT: 76604	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused ultrasound to the area of concern 	Lump	NO PREP
Lower Abdomen / Lower Back CPT: 76705	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused ultrasound to the area of concern 	Lump	NO PREP
Upper / Lower Extremity Nonvascular CPT: 76882	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused ultrasound to the area of concern 	Palpable lump (groin extremity) Groin lymphadenopathy Baker's cyst Foreign body Ganglion cyst	NO PREP
MSK / Musculoskeletal			
Hand / Wrist CPT: 76881		Suspected radial / ulnar nerve injury Suspected tendon injury	NO PREP
Elbow CPT: 76881		Biceps rupture Bursitis Suspected ulnar nerve abnormality	NO PREP
Shoulder CPT: 76881		Rotator cuff tear Biceps rupture Bursitis Muscle strain	NO PREP
Foot CPT: 76881		Morton's neuroma Plantar fasciitis Muscle strain	NO PREP
Ankle CPT: 76881		Suspected achilles injury Suspected medial / lateral ankle tendon injury	NO PREP
Knee CPT: 76881		Suspected patellar tendon injury Suspected quadriceps injury	NO PREP