

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

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document represents the most common current procedural terminology codes utilized but is not all inclusive. Other codes do apply. This is provided solely for assistance and easy access to information.

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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

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