

Use of Medical Imaging – Outpatient Imaging Efficiency

MEASURE DESCRIPTION	UC IRVINE MEDICAL CENTER (October 2016 – July 2017)		NATIONAL AVERAGE
	Lower is Better	Higher is Better	
Use of Medical Imaging			
Outpatients with CT scans of the chest that were “combination” (double) scans. (Thorax CT - use of contrast material)	0.1% of 703 scans		1.5%
Outpatients who got cardiac imaging stress tests before low-risk outpatient surgery.	4.5% of 287 patients		4.6%
Outpatients with brain CT scans who got a sinus CT scan at the same time. (Simultaneous use of brain and sinus computed tomography)	0.9% of 703 patients		1.1%

What are we doing to improve:

UC Irvine Department of Radiology is committed to providing efficient use of imaging procedures in our hospital outpatient departments. We work continuously to reduce unnecessary exposure of our patients to contrast materials and/or radiation. Our improvement plans include constant monitoring of compliance with evidence-based practice guidelines to protect patient safety and to avoid imaging tests that patients may not need. We also monitor ordering patterns and collaborate with our medical specialties and departments to improve the ordering practices among referring physicians.

UCI Health