

IMAGING PATHWAYS GUIDE

Musculoskeletal

Shoulder Pain

First-line:

- X-ray

Second-line:

- Ultrasound
 - MRI
-

Knee Pain

First-line:

- X-ray

Persistent symptoms:

- MRI
-

Low Back Pain

Red flags:

- MRI Lumbar Spine

Without red flags:

- Conservative management
-

Neurology

Headache

Acute neurological symptoms:

- CT Brain

Persistent symptoms:

- MRI Brain

Stroke

Urgent:

- CT Brain
 - CT Angiography
-

Abdominal Imaging

Gallstones

First-line:

- Ultrasound Abdomen
-

Renal Colic

Preferred:

- CT KUB
-

Women's Imaging

Breast Lump

Patients under 35 years:

- Breast Ultrasound

Patients over 35 years:

- Mammography
 - Breast Ultrasound
-

Screening

- Mammography
-

Vascular

DVT

First-line:

- Venous Doppler Ultrasound
-

Cardiac

Dyspnoea

- Echocardiography
-

Osteoporosis

- Bone Mineral Density (DEXA)
-

Oncology

Prostate Cancer

- PSMA PET-CT
-

General Oncology

- PET-CT
-

Interventional Procedures

- Joint injections
 - Aspirations
 - Biopsies
-

MRI Contraindications

Further assessment required in patients with:

- Pacemakers
- Neurostimulators
- Cochlear implants
- Metallic foreign bodies

- Aneurysm clips
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For advice regarding imaging appropriateness or urgent examinations, please contact:

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