

Memo

January 9, 2026

To: RCI Affiliate Radiology Leaders and CT Technologists

Subject: CTA Runoff Exam Protocol and Communication Guidelines

Effective immediately, Interventional Radiology (IR) no longer needs to approve CTA runoff exams in advance. Consultation with IR is only required if there are clinical concerns regarding renal function or contrast allergies.

During RCI/IR coverage hours:

- Follow the standard CT contrast protocol related to renal function and contrast allergies.
- CTA runoff exams should still be performed as ordered — no IR approval is required.
- Diagnostic radiologists will continue to read:
 - CTA head and neck
 - CTA pulmonary embolism (PE) studies
 - Mesenteric CTA
 - GI bleed CTA

Communication Guidelines for CTA Runoff Exams (RCI coverage/IR on-call):

- **Dr. Schmall:**
Please call **when the patient is on the exam table** to allow adequate time for travel to the hospital to read the exam.
- **Dr. Ericson & Dr. Merritt:**
Please place the exam on the worklist and call to notify when the study is complete and ready for dictation.

During Real Radiology coverage hours:

- CTA runoff exams do not require IR notification.
- The exam should be completed and added to the Real Radiology worklist for interpretation.

Reminders

- It is NEVER acceptable to send a study to both RCI and Real Rad due to potential patient care and medicolegal issues. RCI will follow up on these with respective technologists and leaders if problems persist.