



March 20, 2020

Notice to Healthcare Providers RE: COVID-19 Ordering Guidelines

Columbus Radiology is recommending the following imaging guidelines for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients:

- For **stable** patients, there is currently **NO** role for imaging in the diagnosis of COVID-19
- For **unstable** patients, initial chest imaging should be a **portable chest radiograph**
- CT should not be used to screen for or as a first-line test to diagnose COVID-19
- CT should be used sparingly and reserved for hospitalized, symptomatic patients with specific clinical indications for CT
- The use of **advanced imaging** (CT, MRI, US, NM) in a patient with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should be discussed directly between attending physician and radiologist

These recommendations reflect current recommendations from the American College of Radiology. This is an evolving situation, and we will continue to revisit these guidelines as needed.

If you need to consult with a radiologist or have a question regarding these guidelines, our radiologists can be reached 24/7 via our Center of Radiology Excellence (CORE).