

# Merge - CT - Codes and Scheduling Guidelines

Last Modified on 06/12/2025 12:32 pm EDT



## Exam Details - CT/Computed Tomography Codes, Description, Location Rules, Prep and Additional Rules

### Available at:

DC, Chevy Chase, and Sterling

### Not Available at:

Bethesda, Fairfax, Germantown, Potomac, or Arlington

### Contrast Exams:

**\*\*Always ask if WITH, WITHOUT, or BOTH!\*\*  
AS NEEDED or PRN = WITH CONTRAST**

**No CT Contrast Exams can be added AFTER 3PM for the NEXT DAY UNLESS APPROVED BY THE CT DEPARTMENT. If the CT department cannot be reached, any CT Contrast exam should be scheduled a minimum of 2 days out. If a doctors office calls after 4PM to request an urgent CT Contrast appointment for the next day, an email must be sent to Leadership for the nurses/CT techs.**

### Patient with any Allergy - Contrast Exams:

Schedule 3 business days out and document allergy in allergy field (5 business days if scheduling CT for pre-auth timing included)!

### Patients with Allergy to Iodine - Contrast Exams:

Cannot be seen at Washington Radiology, please refer back to referring physician.

**Patients with a history of kidney problems, diabetic, taking metformin or metformin type of drug, or over the age of 60 -**

### Contrast Exams:

Fax creatinine levels to office before appointment.

### BARIUM:

Patient must bring written order with when picking up Barium Contrast prior to exam.

Barium may be picked up from 8am-4:30pm, Monday-Friday at these locations:

DC, Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Park Potomac, Fairfax, Sterling &

**Germantown.**

**Note: Barium is not needed for all exams! See prep notes.**

**AM APPOINTMENTS:** AT 9PM THE EVENING PRIOR TO THE EXAM, DRINK 1/2 BOTTLE OF BARIUM. FOUR HOURS PRIOR TO THE EXAM DRINK ONLY CLEAR LIQUIDS. TWO HOURS PRIOR TO THE EXAM DRINK 1/2 BOTTLE OF BARIUM.

**PM APPOINTMENTS:** AT 8AM THE DAY OF THE EXAM, DRINK 1/2 BOTTLE OF BARIUM. FOUR HOURS PRIOR TO THE EXAM DRINK ONLY CLEAR LIQUIDS. TWO HOURS PRIOR TO THE EXAM, DRINK 1/2 BOTTLE OF BARIUM.


**Additional Notes:**

**Blood Thinners - OK to continue taking with CT contrast**  
**ANY Coronary CT - WR does NOT perform! (except Cardiac Scoring)**

**SUGGESTED CLEAR LIQUIDS:**

**WATER, COFFEE OR TEA (WITH SUGAR BUT WITHOUT CREAM/MILK), CLEAR SOFT DRINKS, CLEAR FRUIT JUICES. NO DAIRY PRODUCTS, NO SOLID FOOD, NO JELLO.**





**See Below for further location rules.**

Exam Code	Description - CPT Code	Reason for Exam	Location and Scheduling Rules	Prep and Additional Notes
CA1	Abdomen W/ Contrast		DO NOT USE CODE! Always use CAP Code!	
CA2	Abdomen W/Out Contrast		DO NOT USE CODE! Always use CAP Code!	
CA3	Abdomen W/ & W/Out Contrast		DO NOT USE CODE! Always use CAP Code!	
CAA1	 CT Angio Abdomen w/ Contrast	Abdominal aorta, mesenteric arteries, renal arteries	DC & STERLING ONLY!	<u>NO BARIUM!</u>

CAAP1	♥ CT Angio Abdomen & Pelvis w/ Contrast	Abdominal aorta, mesenteric arteries, renal arteries,	DC & STERLING ONLY! NOTE: DIEP FLAP at DC ONLY!	<u>NO BARIUM!</u>
CACH1	♥ CT Angio Non- Coronary Chest w/ Contrast	Thoracic aorta, internal mammary arteries, P.E. Studies	DC & STERLING ONLY!	<u>NO BARIUM!</u> <u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam
CACH1 & CAAP1	♥ CT Angio DIEP Flap w/ Contrast	Breast Cancer Patient, deep inferior epigastric arteries	DC ONLY!	<u>NO BARIUM!</u> <u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam
CAN1	♥ CT Angio Neck w/ Contrast	Carotids	DC & STERLING ONLY!	<u>NO BARIUM!</u> <u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam
CAPE1	♥ CT Angio Pelvis w/ Contrast	Iliac Arteries ONLY	DC & STERLING ONLY! For Iliac arteries ONLY We DO NOT perform the exam if reason is Prostate, Prostate Arteries or planning for Prostate Artery Embolization (PAE)	<u>NO BARIUM!</u> <u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam
CAC1	Abdomen AND Chest WITH Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> <b>BARIUM</b> & Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam
CAC2	Abdomen AND Chest WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> <b>BARIUM</b>
CAC3	Abdomen AND Chest With and Without Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> <b>BARIUM</b> & Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam

CAP1	Abdomen AND Pelvic WITH Contrast	Gallbladder, pancreas, liver, kidneys	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<p>PREP: <b>BARIUM</b> &amp; Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam</p> <p><b>NO BARIUM! REASON OF HEMATURIA, FLANK PAIN, RULE OUT KIDNEY STONE PREP, PACEAS PROTOCOL or ADRENAL GLAND:</b> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam. Do NOT empty bladder 2 hours prior to appointment until technologist instructs you to use the restroom.</p>
CAP2	Abdomen AND Pelvic WITHOUT Contrast	Gallbladder, pancreas, liver, kidneys  <b>NOTE: CT-RENAL use CAP2</b>	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<p>PREP: <b>BARIUM</b></p> <p><b>NO BARIUM! REASON OF HEMATURIA, FLANK PAIN, RULE OUT KIDNEY STONE, RENAL PREP, PANCREAS PROTOCOL or ADRENAL GLAND:</b> Do NOT empty bladder 2 hours prior to appointment until technologist instructs you to use the restroom.</p>

CAP3	Abdomen AND Pelvic With and Without Contrast	Gallbladder, pancreas, liver, kidneys  <b>NOTE: CT- UROGRAM use CAP3</b>	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<p><u>PREP: <b>BARIUM</b> &amp; Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam</u></p> <p><b><u>NO BARIUM! REASON OF HEMATURIA, FLANK PAIN, RULE OUT KIDNEY STONE, UROGRAM PREP, PANCREAS PROTOCOL or ADRENAL GLAND:</u></b></p> <p>Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam. Do NOT empty bladder 2 hours prior to appointment until technologist instructs you to use the restroom.</p>
CAPC1	Abdomen AND Pelvic and Chest WITH Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP: <b>BARIUM</b> &amp; Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam</u>
CAPC2	Abdomen AND Pelvic and Chest WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP: <b>BARIUM</b></u>
CAPC3	Abdomen AND Pelvic and Chest With and Without Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP: <b>BARIUM</b> &amp; Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam</u>
CC1	Chest WITH Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP: Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.</u>
CC2	Chest WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CC3	Chest With and Without Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP: Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.</u>


CCS	 Cardiac Scoring AKA: Calcium Scoring or Electron Beam CT (EBCT)	High blood pressure, high cholesterol, family history of heart disease	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22) NOTE: No patients under the age of 16	Exam is NOT covered by insurance. Patient will need to pay \$250. <u>PREP:</u> No caffeinated products 24 hours before exam. No exercise the day of the exam. Resting heartrate must be less than 75bpm. All CCS exams have to be scheduled individually with the payor as Self Pay, unless the patient has Medicare. Insurance information will be entered for Medicare patients scheduled for a CCS exam. If patient has other appointments for the same day, they can have the insurance information listed but all CCS will be entered as Self Pay. (UPDATED 10/09/23)
CDM	Dental Mapping		CHEVY CHASE ONLY with Dr. Lande	
CEL1	 Extremity Lower WITH Contrast			<u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CEL2	 Extremity Lower WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase MAKO Protocol, for knee or hip, schedule at STRL or DC ONLY!	No Prep
CEL3	 Extremity Lower With and Without Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CEU1	 Extremity Upper WITH Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CEU2	 Extremity Upper WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CEU3	 Extremity Upper With and Without Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.

CH1	Head WITH Contrast	Brain	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CH2	Head WITHOUT Contrast	Brain	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CH3	Head With and Without Contrast	Brain	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CIVP1	Abdomen AND Pelvic and IVP		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam. Also, instruct patient to NOT empty their bladder 2 hours prior to appointment until technologist instructs you to use the restroom.
CI1	Internal Auditory Canal WITH Contrast Also known as: IAC or Temporal Bone	Inner Ear Canal	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CI2	Internal Auditory Canal WITHOUT Contrast Also known as: IAC or Temporal Bone	Inner Ear Canal	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CMAN	Mandible WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
	Maxillofacial		Clarify on exam type. Could be Orbits, Sinus, Mandible, or Teeth	
CN1	Neck WITH Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CN2	Neck WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CN3	Neck With and Without Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CO1	Orbits WITH Contrast	Eyes	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP</u> : Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CO2	Orbits WITHOUT Contrast	Eyes	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep

CO3	Orbits With and Without Contrast	Eyes	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam.
CPIT	Pituitary WITH Contrast		<b>CALL CENTER</b> and Check with CT Tech before scheduling appointment	
CP1	Pelvic WITH Contrast	Female organs, uterus, ovaries, fallopian tubes, bladder	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> <b>BARIUM</b> & Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam  <b>REASON/VIEW BONY PELVIS, SI JOINTS, SACRUM, COCCYX, ANY BONE ANATOMY IN PELVIS:</b> <u><b>NO BARIUM!</b></u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam. Call CT Tech to Verify!
CP2	Pelvic WITHOUT Contrast	Female organs, uterus, ovaries, fallopian tubes, bladder	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> <b>BARIUM</b>  <b>REASON/VIEW BONY PELVIS, SI JOINTS, SACRUM, COCCYX, ANY BONE ANATOMY IN PELVIS:</b> <u><b>NO BARIUM!</b></u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam. Call CT Tech to Verify!
CP3	Pelvic With and Without Contrast	Female organs, uterus, ovaries, fallopian tubes, bladder	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	<u>PREP:</u> <b>BARIUM</b> & Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam  <b>REASON/VIEW BONY PELVIS, SI JOINTS, SACRUM, COCCYX, ANY BONE ANATOMY IN PELVIS:</b> <u><b>NO BARIUM!</b></u> Clear liquids only for 4 hours before exam. Call CT Tech to Verify!
CSC2	Spine Cervical WITHOUT Contrast	Neck	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase <b>(Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)</b>	No Prep



CSL2	Spine Lumbar WITHOUT Contrast	Back	DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)	No Prep
CSS	Sinus Screen		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CS1	Sinus WITH Contrast Maxillofacial		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)	No Prep
CS2	Sinus WITHOUT Contrast (Full Series) Maxillofacial		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)	No Prep
CS3	Sinus WITH and WITHOUT Contrast Maxillofacial		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)	No Prep
CSG2	Scanogram		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CSTR	Sinus / Stryker		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CSBL	Sinus / Brainlab		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CSMT	Sinus / Medtronic		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase	No Prep
CST2	Spine Thoracic WITHOUT Contrast		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)	No Prep
CTLS	♥ Thorax / Lung Scan		DC, Sterling, or Chevy Chase (Sterling will offer Saturday appts beginning 2/13/22)	Exam may not be covered by insurance. Will bill insurance first, but if denied exam cost is \$255.
CVCD	♥ Virtual Colonoscopy Diagnostic (NOT REQUIRED TO CHECK THE PHYSICIAN MODALITY LIST UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)		SCHEDULE WITH DR. STEEVER OR DR. CHU ONLY DC, CHEVY CHASE OR STERLING  NOTE: Cannot do regular colonoscopy plus another diagnosis (I.E. Blood thinners, anticoagulants, twisted colon, blood in stool, etc.)  Exam can only be scheduled in the morning BEFORE 9:30am.	Medicare will NOT cover a diagnostic VC unless 2 reasons for exam. Exam cost is \$800. MOST INSURANCE COMPANIES REQUIRE PRE- AUTHORIZATION Prep: Please advise patient to pick up barium and instructions for exam at least 4 days prior to the appointment. At that time, a clinical team member will discuss the prep in full.

CVCS	 Virtual Colonoscopy Screen (NOT REQUIRED TO CHECK THE PHYSICIAN MODALITY LIST UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)		<p>SCHEDULE WITH DR.  STEEVER OR DR. CHU ONLY  DC, CHEVY CHASE OR  STERLING</p> <p>NOTE: Cannot do regular  colonoscopy plus another  diagnosis (I.E. Blood thinners,  anticoagulants, twisted colon,  blood in stool, etc.)</p> <p>Exam can only be scheduled in  the morning BEFORE 9:30am.</p>	<p>Medicare will NOT cover a  screening VC. Exam cost is  \$800.</p> <p>MOST INSURANCE  COMPANIES REQUIRE PRE-  AUTHORIZATION</p> <p>Prep: Please advise patient to  pick up barium and instructions  for exam at least 4 days prior to  the appointment. At that time, a  clinical team member will  discuss the prep in full.</p>
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EDITED: 11/22/2024