



CT head in low-risk syncope

Avoid CT of the head in asymptomatic adult patients in the emergency department with syncope, insignificant trauma, and a normal neurological evaluation.

In the evaluation of simple syncope and a normal neurological examination, don't obtain brain imaging studies (CT or MRI).

Most of the syncopal episodes presented to Emergency department are not serious. If no report of neurologic symptoms or signs, the probability of a central nervous system (CNS) cause of the episode is extremely low and routine order of CT scan will not improve the patient outcomes.

CT scan may be indicated if the syncopal episode complicated by head injury or if there were symptoms of a stroke before or after the syncopal episode as headache, garbled speech, weakness, or confusion.

The decision to order any investigation should be guided by clinical information gathered from the patient's history or physical examination.

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