

	<b>Policy:</b>	<b>Diagnostic Imaging- X-ray Elbow (Adult or Peds &gt; 5 years)</b>
	<b>Number:</b>	
<b>Approved by: Medical Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Manual:</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Section:</b>	<b>Medical Directive Emergency</b>
	<b>Page:</b>	<b>1 of 2</b>

**Procedure:**

- An elbow x-ray is ordered for the following injuries:

**Indications:**

Direct blow or trauma to the elbow

and:

Deformity OR Inability to fully extend elbow

**Contraindications:**

- Known or suspected pregnancy
- Unstable patient-physician to be contacted immediately
- Signs or symptoms of neurovascular compromise in the affected limb-physician to be contacted immediately
- Open fractures will be assessed by the emergency physician directly
- Patient is intoxicated or has other distracting injuries and is unable to follow direction, maintain motor control or is uncooperative

**Guidelines:**

- Do not order X ray in patients who have pain without a mechanism of injury

**References:**

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Effective Date: May 25, 2009	Revised Date:	Version: May 2009
File Name: Elbow X-Ray ED-DI-07		

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