

	Policy:	Diagnostic Imaging- X-ray Tibia and Fibula (Adult or Peds > 5 years)
	Number:	
Approved by: Medical Advisory Committee	Manual:	
Signature:	Section:	Medical Directive Emergency
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Procedure:

- A tibia and fibula x-ray is ordered for the following injuries:

Indications:

Direct blow or trauma to the tibia/fibula

and:

Deformity OR Tenderness

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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5. Hunt A, McCraig C. Do triage x-ray protocols really decrease ED stay time for patients? Gema Library, 1998. Available: URL: <http://gema.library.ucsf.edu>.
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