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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Effective Date: May 25, 2009
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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: