

	Policy:	Diagnostic Imaging- X-ray Foot (Patient > 5 y.o.)
	Number:	
Approved by: MAC November 2008	Manual:	
Signature:	Section:	Medical Directive Emergency
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Procedure:

- A foot x-ray is ordered for the following injuries:

Indications:

1. Pain in the midfoot zone and one or more of the following findings:
 - a. Bone tenderness at the base of the 5th metatarsal OR
 - b. Bone tenderness at the navicular OR
 - c. Inability to bear weight both immediately and in the emergency department, walking 4 steps.

Contraindications:

- Known or suspected pregnancy. All females between the age of 11 and 55 need to be asked regarding the possibility of 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:

- See Ottawa Ankle Rules poster

References:

1. Keogh, S., Shari, A& Wijetunge, D. (1998) "Comparison of Ottawa ankle rules and current local guidelines for use of radiology in acute ankle injuries." On the internet: www.rcsed.ac.uk
2. McRae, R. (1981) *Practical Fracture Treatment*. Churchill Livingstone; London.
3. Stiell IG, et al, " A study to develop clinical decision rules for the use of radiography in acute ankle injuries" *Ann Emerg Med*. 1992, 21:384-90
4. Stiell IG et al, " Decision Rules for the Use of Radiography in Acute Ankle Injuries-Refinement and Prospective Validation", *JAMA* 1993 269(9); 1127-1132
5. Stiell IG et al, " Multicentre trial to introduce the Ottawa Ankle Rules for use of radiography in acute ankle injuries: *BMJ* 1995, 311;594-597
6. Markert RJ et al " A pooled analysis of the Ottawa Ankle Rules use on adults in the ED" *AM J Emerg Med* Oct 1998, 16(6) 564-7
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8. *Allerston J et al, " Nurse practitioners and the Ottawa Ankle Rules: Comparisons with medical staff in requesting x-rays for ankle injured patients" Accident and Emergency Nursing Apr 2000, 8(2) 110-115*
9. *Allerston J et al, " A case control study of the transit time through an accident and emergency department of ankle injured patients assessed using the Ottawa Ankle Rules: Accident and Emergency Nursing Jul 2000, 8(3) 148-544*
10. *Mann CF et al " Use of Ottawa Ankle Rules by nurse practitioners" J of ACC and Emerg Med Sept 1998, 15(5) 315-6*
11. *Salt P et al, " Implementation of the Ottawa Ankle Rules by nurses working in an accident and emergency department: Nov 1997, 14(6) 363-5*
12. *Dowling S et al. Accuracy of Ottawa Ankle Rules to exclude fractures of the ankle and midfoot in children: A Meta-analysis. Arch Emerg Med 2009;16:277-287*