

Provider Led Entity

CDI Quality Institute AUC Questions: Ankle and/or hind foot* pain

07/09/2019

*Hind foot refers to structures posterior to the tarsometatarsal joints

Patient/Problem: Appropriateness of advanced imaging procedures in patients with the following clinical presentations:

- Ankle and/or hind foot pain and/or instability with suspected structural derangement after an acute injury
- Ankle and/or hind foot pain with clinical and/or radiographic suspicion for stress or insufficiency fracture
- Nontraumatic (chronic) ankle and/or hind foot pain persisting after an appropriate trial of conservative care and no major abnormalities (e.g., AVN, OCD, fracture, coalition, moderate or severe osteoarthritis) on radiographs
- Nontraumatic (chronic) ankle and/or hind foot pain with moderate to severe osteoarthritis on initial radiographs
- Ankle and/or hind foot pain with clinical and/or radiographic suspicion of osteochondral defect or avascular necrosis/osteonecrosis
- Ankle and/or hind foot pain with clinical and/or radiographic suspicion of septic arthritis, osteomyelitis, or neuropathic arthropathy (e.g., Charcot hind foot)
- Ankle and/or hind foot pain with clinical and/or radiographic suspicion of foreign body
- Ankle and/or hind foot pain with clinical and/or radiographic suspicion of a hind foot (tarsal) coalition
- Ankle and/or hind foot pain with fracture(s) noted on radiographs and a need for surgical planning

For patients > 18 years of age, in a community outpatient setting, without pregnancy, and for the purposes of diagnosis.

Interventions: Advanced testing – MRI, MR arthrography, CT, CT arthrography, Nuclear medicine w/ or w/o SPECT, or PET

Comparison: Gold standard (imaging findings, biopsy results, surgical findings, or clinical follow-up).

Outcome: Diagnostic accuracy, effect on patient management, and/or patient outcome.

Exclusions:

- Inflammatory arthritis (other than septic arthritis)
- Crystal deposition disease
- Metabolic bone disease
- Primary synovial abnormalities (PVNS, osteochondromatosis)
- Evaluation of indeterminate bone lesion on radiograph
- Primary soft tissue neoplasm
- Lisfranc injuries
- CT navigation or modeling for ankle arthroplasty
- Painful ankle or hind foot arthroplasty
- Pediatric patients
- Pregnant patients