

Evidence Discussion (SP-15)

Post-Operative Spinal Disorders

Despite advances made in high-resolution spinal imaging, plain films remain integral in providing optimal care for spine patients and continue to provide critical information that cannot be obtained with other imaging modalities.² X-ray imaging with anteroposterior, lateral, oblique and flexion-extension views is considered the primary imaging modality for postoperative evaluation and can provide complementary information to advanced imaging.^{1,3}

For revision thoracic or lumbar anterior spinal arthrodesis, CT angiography or MR angiography may be indicated, however, risks are present with these modalities including radiation exposure (CT), availability of the imaging modalities in close proximity to patients, potential out-of-pocket costs to patients, and sensitivity to patient movement (MRI).^{6,7}

References

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