

Evidence Discussion (AB 38.1)

Polycystic Kidney Disease (AB-38.1)

- Screening studies are important for individuals at risk for polycystic kidney disease, as well as imaging protocols to assess and monitor renal parenchyma and evolving cysts, which can predict patient outcomes.
- Screening protocols that utilize ultrasonography, a readily available and safe imaging modality, can reliably quantify and characterize renal cysts, aiding in the diagnosis of ADPKD. A negative ultrasound result has a high negative predictive value for excluding ADPKD.
- After diagnosis, advanced imaging may be indicated to assess total kidney volume, and to characterize cystic renal lesions, such as before treatment/procedures.
- Given the significant association with CKD, contrast (both gadolinium and iodine-based) would preferentially be avoided for both CT and MR. The choice of advanced imaging would typically be magnetic resonance imaging without contrast unless the benefits outweigh the risks.

References

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