

Evidence Discussion (PVD-4.2)

Upper Extremity Venous Imaging

Duplex ultrasound is the initial imaging modality for assessment of patients with symptoms of upper extremity venous occlusive disease or venous insufficiency including arm edema, pain and ulceration. Duplex imaging is limited in assessment of the proximal subclavian vein and central veins due to anatomic interference by the rib cage and lungs. MRV or CTV is indicated to assess these more proximal segments of the venous outflow and central venous structures including the innominate veins and SVC.

Advanced imaging is indicated for treatment planning in SVC syndrome and proximal venous intervention. Follow-up imaging after PTA and/or stenting for SVC syndrome or proximal vein occlusive disease may be approved assessment of stent patency and for recurrent symptoms.

References

1. Shah RP, Bolaji O, Duhan S, Ariaga AC, Keisham B, Paul T, Aljaroudi W, Alraies MC. Superior Vena Cava Syndrome: An Umbrella Review. *Cureus*. 2023 Jul 20;15(7):e42227. doi: 10.7759/cureus.42227. PMID: 37605686; PMCID: PMC10439982.