

# **CT Neck Soft Tissue**

Updated 05/03/24

Reviewed 05/14/25

Indications - mass, lymphadenopathy, swelling, sore throat, difficulty swallowing, foreign body.

## **GENERAL SCAN NOTES**

Remove any metal from the imaging field of view (particularly dentures).

Use non metallic markers for palpable areas. Do not use metallic skin markers areas due to streak artifact.

Patient positioning is very important to decrease beam hardening artifact from shoulders:

Place rolled towel/sheet between patient's shoulder blades to drop shoulders posteriorly.

Have patient pull a folded sheet/towel wrapped around foot with both hands to pull shoulders towards feet.

Instruct patient to not swallowing during imaging.

Topogram - orbital floor through inferior aspect of main pulmonary artery.

Craniocaudal coverage - orbital floor through inferior aspect of main pulmonary artery.

Adjust FOV (field of view) on topogram to smallest without cropping anatomy.

IV Contrast: 100 mL Omnipaque-300, inject at 2.5 mL/sec, 90 secs scan delay.

For **GE scanners**, it is essential for the 1st recon thickness on the scanner to match the 1st recon thickness in this protocol book for the prescribed Noise Index to be valid. The 1st recon should generally be the thickest recon in the protocol.

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## SIEMENS PARAMETERS & RECONS

	Scan Mode	kV	mAs	Care Dose	Care kV & Lvl	Pitch	Acq	Coll	Rot Time	Scan Time
Sensation 16	spiral	120	150	on	NA	0.80	16	0.8	0.75	15.6
Go Up 32	spiral	130	102	on	on 155	0.80	32	0.7	1.0	11.2
Sensation 64	spiral	120	150	on	NA	0.90	64	0.6	1.0	11.6
Definition 64	spiral	120	165	on	on	0.80	64	0.6	1.0	13.0
Go Top 64	spiral	120	119	on	on 155	0.80	64	0.6	1.0	6.5
Drive 128	spiral	120	116	on	on	0.80	128	0.6	1.0	6.5
Force 192	spiral	120	116	on	on	0.80	192	0.6	1.0	4.3

Name of Series	Thick	Interval	Kernel	Window	IR Lvl	Recon Direction
AX SOFT	3.0	3.0	Br40 / B31s	abdomen	3	head/feet
COR SOFT	3.0	3.0	Br40 / B31s	abdomen	3	front/back
SAG SOFT	3.0	3.0	Br40 / B31s	abdomen	3	left/right
AX THINS	1.0	1.0	Br40 / B31s	abdomen	3	head/feet

Send the above recons on the pre contrast scan (if without only) or on the post contrast scan (if IV given).

Send only the following recon on the pre contrast scan (if without and with).

AX PRE SOFT	3.0	3.0	Br40 / B31s	abdomen	3	head/feet
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If **streak artifact** from **dental hardware**, perform a sequential scan around hardware:

Send of the post contrast if IV contrast given.

AX SOFT OBLIQUE	3.0	3.0	Bf37 / B31s	abdomen	3	head/feet
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## GE PARAMETERS & RECONS

	Scan Type	SFOV	kV	mA Range	Noise Index	Smart mA	Slice Thick	Beam Coll	Pitch	Speed	Rot Time	Dose Red	ASIR	Scan Time
LS 16	helical	large	120	100-440	8.60	on	2.5	10	1.375	13.75	0.6	NA	NA	8.7
Opt 540	helical	large	120	100-440	8.60	on	2.5	10	1.375	13.75	0.6	NA	NA	8.7
LS VCT 64	helical	small body	120	100-335	9.10	on	2.5	40	0.984	39.375	0.5	30	30	2.5
Disc VCT 64	helical	small body	120	100-335	9.10	on	2.5	40	0.984	39.375	0.5	NA	NA	2.5

Name of Series	Thickness	Interval	Recon Algorithm	Window Width/Level	Recon Direction
AX SOFT	2.5	2.5	std full	400/40	head/feet
COR SOFT	2.5	2.5	std full	400/40	front/back
SAG SOFT	2.5	2.5	std full	400/40	left/right
AX THINS	1.25	1.25	std full	400/40	head/feet

**Must be first recon.**

Send the above recons on the pre contrast scan (if without only) or on the post contrast scan (if IV given).

Send only the following recon on the pre contrast scan (if without and with).

AX SOFT PRE	2.5	2.5	std full	400/40	head/feet
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If **streak artifact** from **dental hardware**, perform a sequential scan around hardware:

Send of the post contrast if IV contrast given.

AX SOFT OBLIQUE	2.5	2.5	std full	400/40	head/feet
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# CT Neck Soft Tissue

## PHILIPS PARAMETERS & RECONS

	Scan Mode	kV	Avg mAs	Dose Index	3D Dose	Pitch	Detect	Colli	Rot Time	Scan Time
Incisive 128	helical	120	203	22	on	0.80	64	0.625	0.75	4.7

Name of Series	Thick	Interval	Filter	Window	iDose	Recon Direction
AX SOFT	3.0	3.0	B	soft tissue neck	3	head/feet
COR SOFT	3.0	3.0	B	soft tissue neck	3	front/back
SAG SOFT	3.0	3.0	B	soft tissue neck	3	left/right
AX THINS	1.0	1.0	B	soft tissue neck	3	head/feet

Send the above recons on the pre contrast scan (if without only) or on the post contrast scan (if IV given).

Send only the following recon on the pre contrast scan (if without and with).

AX SOFT PRE	3.0	3.0	B	soft tissue neck	3	head/feet
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If **streak artifact** from **dental hardware**, perform a sequential scan around hardware:

Send of the post contrast if IV contrast given.

AX SOFT OBLIQUE	3.0	3.0	B	soft tissue neck	3	head/feet
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