

CT Lumbar Spine Karma

Updated 08/25/25

Reviewed 08/25/25

Indications - pre/post surgical evaluation and should be ordered as Karma protocol by Dr. Chahlavi.
These exams are supposed to only be scanned at Southside hospital (per Dr. Chahlavi).

GENERAL SCAN NOTES

Move patient's arms over head if possible. Remove any metal from the imaging field of view.

Topogram - T12 through bottom of SI joints.

Craniocaudal scan coverage - T12 through bottom of SI joints.

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

IV Contrast: 100 mL Omnipaque-300, inject at 2.5 mL/sec, 60 secs scan delay.

SIEMENS PARAMETERS & RECONS

	Scan Mode	kV	mAs	Care Dose	Care kV & Lvl	Pitch	Acq	Coll	Rot Time	Scan Time
Sensation 16	spiral	120	300	on	NA	0.80	16	1.5	0.75	11.7
Go Up 32	spiral	130	182	on	on 285	0.80	32	0.7	1.0	16.7
Sensation 64	spiral	120	300	on	NA	0.90	64	0.6	1.0	17.4
Definition 64	spiral	120	330	on	on	0.80	64	0.6	1.0	19.5
Go Top 64	spiral	120	219	on	on 285	0.80	64	0.6	1.0	9.8
Drive 128	spiral	120	232	on	on	0.80	128	0.6	1.0	9.8
Force 192	spiral	130	193	on	on	0.80	192	0.6	1.0	6.5

Name of Series	Thick	Interval	Kernel	Window	IR Lvl	Recon Direction
AX SOFT	3.0	3.0	Br40 / H31s	abdomen	3	head/feet
AX BONE	3.0	3.0	Br59 / H70s	bone/osteo	3	head/feet
COR BONE	3.0	3.0	Br59 / H70s	bone/osteo	3	front/back
SAG BONE	3.0	3.0	Br59 / H70s	bone/osteo	3	left/right
AX THINS	0.8	0.8	Br59 / H70s	bone/osteo	3	head/feet

The slice thickness and interval should be the same and as close to but less than 1 mm as the scanner will allow.

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	Br40 / H31s	abdomen	3	head/feet
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The axial, coronal and sagittal recons are relative to the plane of the spine and may not necessarily be true axial, coronal and sagittal planes.