

MRI Thoracic Spine

Updated 01/20/26

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Go to MRIMaster.com for a guide of proper positioning.

Without Contrast Exam:

Pulse Sequence	PACS Name	plane	fat sat	slice (mm)	gap (mm)	first slice
T2 HiRes Localizer	Localizer	sag	no	5	0.5	left
T1	T1 SAG	sag	no	4	1	left
T2	T2 SAG	sag	no	4	1	left
*T2	T2 FS SAG	sag	yes	4	1	left
T2	T2 AX	ax	no	7	3.5	top

*Add sagittal STIR (5 mm thick no gap) if sagittal T2 FS has blackout artifact.

Without & With Contrast Exam:

Pulse Sequence	PACS Name	plane	fat sat	slice (mm)	gap (mm)	first slice
T2 HiRes Localizer	Localizer	sag	no	5	0.5	left
T1	T1 SAG	sag	no	4	1	left
T2	T2 SAG	sag	no	4	1	left
*T2	T2 FS SAG	sag	yes	4	1	left
T1	T1 FS AX	ax	yes	4	1	top
T2	T2 AX	ax	no	7	3.5	top

CONTRAST - 2 mL/sec standard dose gadolinium (0.2 mL/kg Clariscan or 0.1 mL/kg Gadavist) followed by 20 mL saline flush.

T1	T1 FS POST SAG	sag	yes	4	1	left
T1	T1 FS POST AX	ax	yes	4	1	top

*Add sagittal STIR (5 mm thick no gap) if sagittal T2 FS has blackout artifact.