

Guidelines for ordering Chest X-Rays - PA and Lateral or Portable

Not indicated	Indicated
Asymptomatic patients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> neither pre-admission nor pre-operatively 	Symptoms or signs of a new cardiothoracic illness (Eg. Acute cardiac respiratory symptoms in a patient with no recent or accessible chest x-ray)
Upper respiratory tract infection	Lower respiratory tract infection involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bronchi Lungs
Pneumonia patients who are improving but aren't: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COPD patients High cancer risk Chronic smokers >55 years old 	Pneumonia patients if new symptoms occur, or if patient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has COPD Is a chronic smoker Has high cancer risk Is >55 years old Repeat Chest X-Ray should be no earlier than 6 weeks after last X-Ray
Routine chest X-Ray's in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICU Post-Op PACU 	Each Chest X-Ray requires a clinical indication
Known chronic lung disease with acute shortness of breath	Need a clinical concern for a co-existent complication
Known coronary disease with symptoms of patient's usual chest pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atypical new pain Concern for complication
Minor trauma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injury severity score < 15 Stable vital signs No internal organ damage No major bleeding 	Major trauma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall > 20 ft. Car - pedestrian or motorcycle accident MVA > 40 mph Ejection or Prolonged extraction from vehicle Other death in vehicle Chronic steroid use
Lung cancer screening	Lung cancer screening requires a CT and only if patient is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High risk 30 pkg / years +ve Family Hx Had a previous cancer <75 years old
Thoracic aneurysm F/U	Aneurysms require a CT

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