

Policy number	Policy name	Policy date	Sunset date
PP 12-B	Policy on CT Whole Body Screening	11/24/2007	12/31/2012

Policy source

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Policy text

The use of computed tomography (CT) for total body screening of asymptomatic patients has not currently been found to be scientifically justifiable or clinically efficacious. The greatest concerns surrounding this procedure are: (7) that the procedure will lead to the discovery of minor anomalies that have no influence on patient health, but their identification will lead to added medical examinations with associated risks and unnecessary medical expenses, and (2) the wide-scale use of significant radiation exposures from total body screening CT for a yet unproven screening procedure. Total body CT screening should not be confused with the scientific CT studies of screening for lung cancer in high-risk patients or cardiac scoring to identify calcification in coronary vessels. Scientists in the AAPM will continuously assess the scientific literature as to the efficacy of total body CT screening and make revisions to this policy statement when appropriate.