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Contrast Reaction - Classifications		
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PRESUMES PRACTITIONERS KNOWLEDGE OF: (title)	SPECIAL NOTES
NA	**ABSOLUTE CONTRAINDICATIONS:** NA **EXPOSURE:** NA **PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** NA **PATIENT/FAMILY EDUCATION MATERIALS:** NA **EQUIPMENT:** NA

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide guidelines for the classification of contrast reactions according to their severity into mild, moderate and severe categories.

2.0 SCOPE

NA

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

NA

4.0 DEFINITION

4.1 Contrast reactions are defined as any adverse events temporarily associated with the administration of contrast agents. Contrast reactions can be either preventable (due to error) or non-preventable.

5.0 POLICY / PROCEDURE

5.1 Mild adverse reactions (Grade 1)

5.1.1 Are self-limited and show no evidence of progression. Patients with mild reactions require observation to confirm lack of progression of signs and symptoms.

5.1.2 Generally, no treatment is necessary.

5.2 Moderate adverse reactions (Grade 2)

5.2.1 Patients with moderate adverse reactions (Grade 2) require some medical intervention and patients must be observed until the onset of resolution of signs and symptoms.

5.2.2 Pre-medication is recommended for patients with moderate adverse reactions to prevent re-occurrence of adverse reactions in future contrast-enhanced studies.

5.3 Severe adverse reactions (Grade 3)

5.3.1 Patients who experience severe adverse reactions (Grade 3) need advanced and prompt treatment according to signs and symptoms

5.3.2 Almost always requires hospitalization

BWH Radiology Documentation

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REVISION SHEET

DATE	REV	REVIEWED / REVISED / APPROVED	BY
6/20/2006	-	Initial Approval	Pharmacy & Therapeutics Comm.
9/18/2007	-	Annual Reviewed	OSC Comm.
4/28/2008	-	Annual Review	OSC Comm.
6/15/2009		Annual Review	OSC Comm.
7/14/2009	A	Change to New Template	Duncan Phillips
7/16/2009	A	Reviewed	E. Bozadjian