# American College of Radiology

**ACR Appropriateness Criteria**

**Cerebrovascular Disease**

**Variant 1:** Asymptomatic. Structural lesion on physical examination (cervical bruit) and/or risk factors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Appropriateness Category</th>
<th>SOE</th>
<th>Adults RRL</th>
<th>Peds RRL</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Final Tabulations</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Usually appropriate</td>
<td></td>
<td>O 0 mSv</td>
<td>O 0 mSv [ped]</td>
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<td>n/a</td>
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**Variant 2:** Carotid territory or vertebrobasilar TIA, initial screening survey.

The above table details the appropriateness of various imaging procedures, their radiation doses, and ratings based on SOE (Scientific Opinion of Experts). The final tabulations show the consensus ratings from different experts.
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**Variant 3:** New focal neurologic defect, fixed or worsening. Less than 6 hours. Suspected stroke.
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**Variant 4:** New focal neurologic defect, fixed or worsening. Longer than 6 hours. Suspected stroke.
<table>
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<th>SOE</th>
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**Variant 5:** Proven parenchymal hemorrhage (hematoma).
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Variant 6: Suspected dural venous sinus thrombosis.
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Appendix Key
A more complete discussion of the items presented below can be found by accessing the supporting documents at the designated hyperlinks.

**Appropriateness Category:** The panel's recommendation for a procedure based on the assessment of the risks and benefits of performing the procedure for the specified clinical scenario.

**SOE:** Strength of Evidence. The assessment of the amount and quality of evidence found in the peer reviewed medical literature for an appropriateness recommendation.

- **References:** The citation number and PMID for the reference(s) associated with the recommendation.
- **Study Quality:** The assessment of the quality of an individual reference based on the number of study quality elements described in the reference.

**RRL:** Relative Radiation Level. A population based assessment of the amount of radiation a typical patient may be exposed to during the specified procedure.

**Rating:** The final rating (1-9 scale) for the procedure as determined by the panel during rating rounds.

**Median:** The median rating (1-9 scale) for the procedure as determined by the panel during rating rounds.

**Final tabulations:** A histogram showing the number of panel members who rated the procedure as noted in the column heading (ie, 1, 2, 3, etc.).

Additional supporting documents about the AC methodology and processes can be found at [www.acr.org/ac](http://www.acr.org/ac).