Nerve Ablation

Overview

• Long term pain relief

• The use of fluoroscopic systems for interventional purposes is restricted to radiologists and individuals to whom a physician has delegated authority pursuant to the Occupations Code, Chapter 601, and the applicable rules of the Texas Medical Board.

Indications

• Failed Epidural Steroid Injection, facet injections, and/or nerve root blocks

Examination Time

• 60 minutes

Patient Preparation

• Nothing to eat or drink 4 hours before procedure

• Stop blood thinners 5 days before procedure

• Obtain informed consent

• Question for allergies

Equipment

• Siemens C-arm

• Omnipaque 300

Patient Position & Imaging Field

• Prone
Acquisition Protocol - Routine Study

- Radiologist performs fluoroscopy and acquires images

Data Processing

- Technologist will send images taken to PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System).
- Technologist will enter exposure time in the appropriate field of RIS (Radiology Information System).
- Technologist will enter DAP (Dose Area Product) and SEE (Skin Entrance Exposure) into the technologist notes field of the RIS.

Radiation Exposure levels

- Recommended operator guidance reference level for this fluoroscopically-guided interventional procedure is 60 minutes beam-on time. Threshold reference level is a SEE of 5 Gy (Gray).
- Radiation Exposure levels are monitored through the Austin Radiological Association’s monthly technologist QA process.
- If the reference level is exceeded, further analysis will be performed by the Protocol Committee and appropriate action taken to include possible patient follow-up.

Protocol Review

- Not to exceed 14 months.