Brain death diagnosis

DNC – diagnosis by neurological criterion

Article on radiopeadea

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**K 2023 Consensus**

In 2023 various UK bodies including the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine, British Society of Neuroradiologists and the RCR published a consensus document on the use of CT angiography as ancillary testing for death by neurological criteria (DNC) 17,18. This is recommended when a comprehensive neurological examination or confounding conditions cannot be performed or excluded. This imaging assessment uses the 4-point criteria described by Frampas 3.

Three phases of imaging are recommended:

* unenhanced phase (to identify pre-existing vessel hyperdensity)
* 20 seconds following contrast administration (to confirm head and neck contrast delivery in the extracranial superficial temporal arteries)
* 60 seconds following contrast administration (a positive scan result confirming DNC with absolutely no opacification of the bilateral cortical MCA (M4) branches, and no opacification of the internal cerebral veins bilaterally)