

## MRI Lumbar Spine With / Without Contrast Guideline (42)

**CPT Code:** 72158

**Indications:** Post op, infection, abscess, mass, mets

**Contrast:** Yes (see [MRG MRI Contrast Administration Policy](#))

### Noncontrast:

Sequence	Plane	Slice Thickness	Gap	FOV	Notes
T1	Sagittal	3mm	1.5mm	250	
T2	Sagittal	2mm	1.0mm	250	
T1	Axial	4mm	0.8mm	170	L-3 to S-1
T2	Axial	4mm	0.8mm	170	L-3 to S-1
T2	Axial MSMA	3mm	1.5mm	170	
STIR	Sagittal	3mm	1.5mm	250	

### Contrast:

Sequence	Plane	Slice Thickness	Gap	FOV	Notes
T1	Sagittal	3mm	1.5mm	250	Fat Sat
T1	Axial Lower	4mm	0.8mm	170	L-3 to S-1, Fat Sat

### Optional:

Sequence	Plane	Slice Thickness	Gap	FOV	Notes
T1	Axial Upper	4mm	0.8mm	170	T12 to L3, if pathology seen, Fat Sat
T2	Axial Lower	4mm	1.0mm	180	