Audit of indication of computed tomography urogram (CTU)

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Introduction
Computed tomography urography (CTU) is a CT technique optimized for imaging the kidneys, ureters and bladder. It requires the use of CT with thin slice imaging, intravenous administration of contrast medium, and imaging in the excretory phase, which involves an 8 minute delayed scan in our departmental protocol.

Objectives
To evaluate whether the 8 minute delayed scan in CTU is indicated for the patients referred to our department.

Methodology
A total of 202 consecutive CTU cases performed from Jan 2013 to Aug 2013 were reviewed. The indication for CTU entered by referring clinician in the Clinical Management System was recorded and categorized.

Result
43 of the 202 patients (21.3%) referred for CTU were not indicated, resulting in unnecessary additional 8 minute delayed scans. Radiologists may amend the imaging protocol according to the clinical history, thus reducing radiation dose and CT scanning time in patients who are not indicated for CTU.