

CRANIAL ULTRASOUND SCANS

Supporting information

This guideline has been prepared with reference to the following:

Ment LR, Bada HS, Barnes P, et al. Neuroimaging of the neonate: Report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology and the Practice Committee of the Child Neurology Society. *Neurology* 2002; 81:726-38

<http://www.neurology.org/content/58/12/1726.long>

Should all premature newborns be given a cranial ultrasound scan?

The recommendation given in the US guidelines (above) is that cranial ultrasound should be performed routinely on all infants < 30 weeks gestation at 7-14 days of age and repeated between 36-40 weeks postmenstrual age. This has been validated in a retrospective study of 486 infants (Harris, 2007).

Harris NJ, Palacio D, Ginzel A, et al. Are routine cranial ultrasounds necessary in premature infants greater than 30 weeks gestation? *Am J Perinatol* 2007;24:17-21

Evidence Level: IV

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