Crohn Disease—Child

Crohn disease ([https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/crohns-disease](https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/crohns-disease)) is a common inflammatory bowel disease that can affect children, adolescents, and adults. It is diagnosed using a combination of physical examination, blood work, endoscopy, and imaging tests.


The severity of Crohn disease symptoms varies over time. For children with known Crohn disease with worsening symptoms, CT abdomen/pelvis with contrast, CTE, MRE, or MRI abdomen/pelvis without and with contrast is usually appropriate. US abdomen, abdomen x-ray ([https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/abdominrad](https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/abdominrad)), fluoroscopic UGI-SBFT, or MRI abdomen/pelvis without contrast may also be appropriate.

For evaluation of disease surveillance or monitoring therapy, CTE, MRE, or MRI abdomen/pelvis without and with contrast is usually appropriate. US abdomen, US abdomen with microbubble contrast, CT abdomen/pelvis with contrast, fluoroscopic UGI-SBFT, MRI abdomen/pelvis without contrast, or fluorine-18-2-fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose PET/CT ([https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/pet](https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/pet)) may also be appropriate.

If complications develop around the anus such as fistula or infected fluid collections, MRI pelvis with contrast or MRI pelvis without and with contrast is usually appropriate. Transperineal ultrasound of the pelvis, CT pelvis with contrast, or MRI pelvis without contrast may also be appropriate.


— By Emily K. Guemsey, BS and Aya Kamaya, MD. This information originally appeared in the *Journal of the American College of Radiology*.

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