

Parent Policy: InsertLinkToParentPolicy	Title: FAST Exam Guideline	Standard Operating Procedure Effective Date: 06/19/2021
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PURPOSE:

Define the role of FAST exam at WakeMed hospitals.

CONTRIBUTING SPECIALTIES:

- Emergency medicine
- Trauma surgery

GUIDELINE:

FAST exam (focused assessment with sonography for trauma) is a useful adjunct when evaluating injured patients. It is easy to use, portable, noninvasive, inexpensive, and does not expose the patient to ionizing radiation. Regular performance of the FAST exam is required to maintain sonography skills. To this end, it is encouraged that a FAST exam be performed on all trauma activations at WakeMed (both trauma alerts and trauma ones). Members of the emergency department team or the trauma surgery team may perform the exam. When possible, the exam should be saved in QPath for review. Performance of a FAST exam may not always be appropriate and can be omitted at the direction of Emergency Department or Trauma Surgery staff.