

Tips for Radiology

Eddie Guo

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1. *High-yield topics:*

- a. Approach to chest x-ray – have a systematic approach. Know common things (e.g., costophrenic angle blunting and meniscus sign in pleural effusion, Kerley B lines in heart failure, identifying why the right hemidiaphragm is elevated vs left, atelectasis, pneumonia, PE, chest radiographic anatomy).
- b. CT abdo/chest/pelvis – know your anatomy. Brownie points for knowing anatomical landmarks and structures to help identify anatomy.
- c. No one expects medical students to be able to read MRIs. Just know basic anatomy and that it is good for soft tissue resolution.

2. *Expectations:*

- a. Show up and be interested.
- b. Try not to slow down the reading process as best as you can. This means ask questions at appropriate times, not blurting out what you think the diagnosis is, respecting the noise level of the reading room, and being quiet during dictation.
- c. When the resident/preceptor lets you go early, it's not a trick. I left most days between 9 AM and 12 PM. Your primary goal is to learn and there truly is almost nothing from a service point of view to offer.

3. *Use electronic resources:* I used the following resources to prepare and study for and during this rotation.

- a. Medical imaging chapter in Toronto Notes.
- b. Core Radiology textbook for interesting findings or things I didn't know.
- c. Radiopedia.
- d. Google images.