

Technologist Review System Hand Radiography

Category	A	B	Comments
All Exams			
Complete exam	All projections	Missing any of the projections	
Overlying material removed	No or trivial overlying material which does not obscure anatomy	Overlying material which obscures anatomy	More than minimal overlying clothing may mimic chondrocalcinosis, retained foreign material, or a fracture.
Motion artifact	None or trivial motion artifact which does not obscure anatomy	Motion artifact which obscures anatomy	Motion artifact may mimic periostitis or obscure fracture lines.
AP			
MCP joints should be profiled	No overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx of fingers	Overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx	Visualization of the joints is necessary for evaluation of narrowing, chondrocalcinosis, and erosions. The MCP and IP joints are not readily optimally visualized simultaneously but profiling the MCP joints is a good indicator of position for evaluation of the hand joints. Note: after grading exams, and in conference with AJZ, we decided to go from “no overlap” to “minimal overlap of 1 mm or less.”
Oblique			
MCP joints should be profiled	No overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx of fingers	Overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx	Visualization of the joints is necessary for evaluation of narrowing, chondrocalcinosis, and erosions. The MCP and IP joints are not readily optimally visualized simultaneously but profiling the MCP joints is a good indicator of position for evaluation of the hand joints. Note: after grading exams, and in conference with AJZ, we decided to go from “no overlap” to “minimal overlap of 1 mm or less.”
Lateral			
Superimposition of the ulna and radius	Complete	Incomplete	The two bones should overlap on the lateral, which should result in collinear carpal joints permitting diagnosis of joint alignment (“dorsal and ventral intercalated instability”) or narrowing. 2 mm or less probably a better cutoff.

AP



A: No overlap along the MCP joints

B: Overlap along the MCP joints

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MCP joints should be profiled	No overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx of fingers	Overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx

Oblique



A: No overlap along the MCP joints.

B: Overlap of the MCP joints

Category	A	B
MCP joints should be profiled	No overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx of fingers	Overlap of the metacarpal head with the proximal phalanx

TRS Hand Radiography

Lateral



A: Superimposed ulna and radius

B: Ulna projects posterior to the radius

Category	A	B
Superimposition of the ulna and radius	Complete	Incomplete