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Imaging of Head and Neck Infections: Diagnostic Considerations, Potential Mimics, and Clinical management.

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Emergency head and neck imaging studies often elicit a unique apprehension, due to the complex anatomy and subtle imaging findings. In this review, we present commonly encountered head and neck infections, with an emphasis on clinical presentation, imaging characteristics, potential mimics of infection, and clinical management

## **ACUTE RHINOSINUSITIS**

Rhinosinusitis is an inflammatory process involving the mucous membranes of the paranasal sinuses and the nasal mucosa. Disease lasting less than 1 month is considered acute rhinosinusitis (ARS), with subacute disease persisting for 1-3 months<sup>1</sup>. Chronic rhinosinusitis lasts longer than 3 months and is generally related to incompletely treated acute or subacute disease<sup>2</sup>. ARS is a common clinical diagnosis with symptoms of purulent nasal discharge, nasal obstruction, and facial pain-fullness. Most cases result from viral spread of an upper respiratory

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