

Understanding Alberta Stroke Program Early CT Score (ASPECTS)

Website: <http://www.aspectsinstroke.com/aspects/what-is-aspects/>

This score is part of the inclusion criteria for CTA /thrombectomy. (ASPECT ≥ 6 needed for CTA/thrombectomy)

Use this website for explanations and extra training and practice on quantifying Early Ischemic Changes on Non-contrast Head CT (NCCT)

I strongly encourage checking out the training cases to practice scoring head CT's.

The screenshot shows the website www.aspectsinstroke.com. The main heading is "Understanding Alberta Stroke Program Early CT Score (ASPECTS)". The page is from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary. A navigation menu includes: Home, Imaging in Acute Stroke, ASPECTS, Scan Parameters, Training, Collateral scoring, and Contacts. The "What is ASPECTS" section is highlighted in yellow. It lists topics: Optimal window settings, Look at all CT cuts, M1-M6 regions, Insula and basal ganglia, Acute-on-chronic infarct, Rule out other pathology, and Limitations of ASPECTS. Below this, there are sections for "How to compute ASPECTS" and "Training cases". The "How to compute ASPECTS" section includes a list of bullet points: ASPECTS is determined by 10 regions of the MCA territory: the basal ganglia level, where the thalamus, basal ganglia, and caudate are visible, and the supraganglionic level, which includes the corona radiata and centrum semiovale; All cuts with basal ganglionic or supraganglionic structures visible are required to determine if an area is involved. The abnormality should be visible on at least two consecutive cuts to ensure that it is truly abnormal rather than a volume averaging effect; To compute the ASPECTS, 1 point is subtracted from 10 for any evidence of early ischemic change for each of the defined regions; A normal CT scan receives ASPECTS of 10 points; A score of 0 indicates diffuse involvement throughout the MCA territory. Below the text are two sets of axial NCCT images: "Ganglionic Level" and "Supraganglionic Level". At the bottom right is the Alberta Health Services logo.