



When to order a Coronary Calcium Score and a Coronary CTA

Why Coronary Calcium Scoring?

With the early detection of calcium present in the coronary arteries, one is able to better predict a patient's overall risk for a cardiac event to occur. Early detection enables patients to modify adjustable risk factors that can aid in the stabilization of their current disease state, prevention of further build up, or even reverse the plaque formation process all together. Calcium Scoring provides a measurement tool to predict a patient's risk of heart disease above and beyond that of traditional risk factor assessment.

Who should have their Calcium Score taken?

- Family History of Heart Disease
- High Blood Pressure
- High Cholesterol
- Smoking or Previously Smoked
- Diabetes
- Stressful Lifestyle
- Men over 45
- Women over 55 or Postmenopausal
- Sedentary Lifestyle

Contraindications for Calcium Scoring

- Known Extensive Heart Disease
- Morbidly Obese
- Resting Heart Rate Over 90 bpm
- Pacemaker
- Coronary Stents
- Coronary Surgery

Test Preparation for Calcium Scoring

There is nothing required to prepare for exam

Insurance Coverage for Calcium Scoring

For most patients this is considered a preventative screening exam which insurance does not cover. Please contact us at 913-667-5600 for pricing information.

Time Required to Complete Exam

About 30 minutes from start to finish.

Why Coronary CTA?

Coronary CTA (CCTA) is a noninvasive procedure that offers similar information as cardiac catheterization. With a low volume of intravenous contrast given, CCTA provides an accurate assessment of plaque type, location, degree of stenosis, as well as any additional anomalies. This exam is helpful for patients who experience certain symptoms that may indicate coronary artery disease. CCTA affords physicians another option for the evaluation of Coronary Artery Disease (CAD).

Who should have a Coronary CTA?

- Chest Pain (atypical or chronic) without unstable angina
- Clarification of Inconclusive Noninvasive Studies
- Interval Evaluation of Known CAD
- Patient Refusal of Conventional Cardiac Catheterization
- Evaluation of Known or Suspected Anomalous Coronary Artery.
- Pre-Operative Evaluation
- Pre-procedure Pulmonary Vein and Coronary Vein Mapping

Contraindications for Coronary CTA

- Bigeminy, Trigeminy, Atrial Fibrillation
- Known or Extensive Heart Disease
- Renal Insufficiency or Anaphylactic/Anaphylactoid CT IV Contrast Allergy
- Morbidly Obese
- Hold breath & raise arms over head for 15 seconds

Test Preparation for Coronary CTA

- No Caffeine 12 hours Prior to Exam
- Clear Liquids ONLY 4 hours Prior to Exam
- No Viagra, Cialis, or Levitra 36 hours Prior to Exam
- Beta Blocker 36, 12, and 1 hour Prior to Exam
- EKG- free of A-fib, 2nd/3rd degree AV Block (to be done at KCIC)

Insurance Coverage for Coronary CTA

Insurance coverage is dependent upon patient's insurance plan. Medicare is reimbursing at this time, however, it is suggested that patient coverage be discussed on an individual basis.

Time Required to Complete Exam

About 1 hour from start to finish, additional time can be required for medication to reach target heart rate.