

Heart & Vascular Angiography

Appointment Information

Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____

Address: _____

Notes: _____

About

Heart and vascular computed tomography angiography (CTA or CCTA), is a non-invasive diagnostic image that produces 3-D images of your heart and associated blood vessels. Heart and vascular CT angiography allows doctors to see inside your heart, arteries and veins

During a heart and vascular CTA scan, contrast material is injected into a small vein in your arm and tracked by the cardiac CT scan as the contrast moves with the blood flow into the heart. The scanner collects information that is used to create hundreds of pictures of your heart. A computer allows the doctor to see your heart in multiple views.

Heart and vascular CT angiography is used for:

- Identifying calcium (plaque) buildup in blood vessels or coronary arteries.
- Spotting possible narrowing of the blood vessels in and around the heart.
- Identifying aneurysms in major blood vessels or dissections in the aorta. Aneurysms are weakened areas of the blood-vessel walls that bulge out. Dissections are layers of artery wall that peel away from each other, weakening the artery.
- Diagnosing coronary-artery disease and heart disease at an early stage

Preparations

To prepare for your heart or vascular angiography, do not eat or drink anything 2 hours prior to your appointment. Avoid caffeinated beverages such as coffee, tea or soda on the day of your exam and try to hydrate well 1 day prior. Be sure to take all your regular medications. Please let your technologist know if you took medication 2 hours or less before your exam.

Be sure to inform your radiologist if any of any of the following health conditions:

- Possibility of pregnancy
- Previous reaction to iodine
- Diabetes
- Dialysis
- Medications
- Pacemaker
- Asthma
- Abnormal kidney function