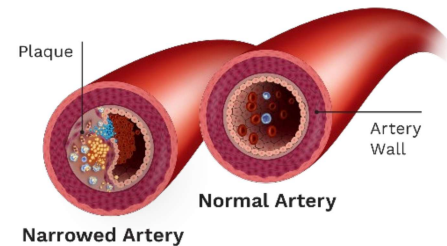


What is a Coronary CT Scan?

A coronary CT scan (CCTA) is a non-invasive way to take high-resolution pictures of your coronary arteries, which are the vessels that supply blood to your heart. These pictures allow your physician to see if there are any blockages or narrowings caused by plaque buildup that could be concerning and causing your symptoms. This is known as Coronary Artery Disease.

What is coronary artery disease?

Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) is the most common type of heart disease and the leading cause of heart attacks.^{1,2} It occurs when plaque builds up in the coronary arteries, potentially restricting blood flow to the heart. This can result in chest pain or even lead to a heart attack.



Why am I receiving a Coronary CT Scan?

A coronary CT scan has the highest level of recommendation in the latest medical guidelines to diagnose heart disease, because it helps confirm or rule out coronary artery disease, allowing you and your doctor to decide on the next steps together. It provides a detailed and comprehensive assessment of your heart's condition in a non-invasive way, making it possible to get a much clearer view of what's happening inside your heart.

Heartflow Analysis

If the physician sees significant narrowings in your arteries on your scan, a Heartflow analysis may be conducted. A Heartflow analysis uses the images from your scan to provide a personalized 3D model of YOUR heart and evaluate how well it is working. There are two parts to a Heartflow analysis: FFR_{ct} analysis, which tells you how well blood is flowing through your vessels, and Plaque analysis, which tells you the type and amount of plaque buildup in your vessels. Studies have shown FFR_{ct} and Plaque Analyses have better accuracy compared to other non-invasive cardiac tests.^{3,4}



View a video discussing the benefits of a coronary CT scan



Learn about what you'll experience during your coronary CT scan

Sources

1. Heart Disease Facts. CDC. Accessed December 18, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/data-research/facts-stats/index.html>
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3. Narula et al. Prospective Deep Learning-based Quantitative Assessment. EHJ 2024.
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