

WHAT IS A CT Calcium Score Test ?

A cardiac calcium CT scan is a simple and non-invasive test to identify possible calcified plaque within the coronary arteries that supply oxygen to your heart. It is one of the most advanced non-invasive diagnostic imaging tests that can detect heart disease in its early stages.

THE EXAMINATION

One of our staff will explain the procedure to you and obtain all relevant information for the procedure. In preparation for the exam you will then be asked to remove any jewellery and change into a gown. You will be positioned lying down with electrodes (heart monitor) attached to your chest and to an electrocardiograph machine that records your heart activity. You will need to remain still and follow some breathing instructions.

The scan is easy, quick and painless and should not take more than 10 minutes.

POST EXAMINATION

You can resume your normal activities. We will analyse your results and notify your referrer within seven days.

IT'S WHAT'S ON THE
INSIDE THAT COUNTS

If you have any questions, please
phone **TRG Imaging on 09 486 1659.**

Alternatively, you can email us on
cardiacct@trgimaging.co.nz

Our physical address is at
209 Shakespeare Road, Milford.



www.trgimaging.co.nz

CT CORONARY ANGIOGRAPHY CT CALCIUM SCORE



WHAT IS A

Computed Tomography Coronary Angiogram?

A CT Coronary Angiogram (CTCA) is a non-invasive imaging test that uses new state of the art CT technology which enables imaging of a beating heart. This procedure is used to see the blood vessels of the heart and provides useful diagnostic information for patients who are considered at high risk for coronary artery disease (CAD). Risk factors for CAD include smoking, hypertension, diabetes and a family history of CAD.

PRE EXAMINATION

When you contact us for an appointment or we receive your referral form from your Cardiologist or GP, instructions will be given to you about your scan, including:

- Details regarding preparation needed before your scan. This may include blood tests to be completed seven days before your scan; and a period of time without food and caffeine.
- Details on how to get “prior approval” (for your CT scan) from your medical insurance company.
- Information about what to do after your CT scan is completed.

THE EXAMINATION

Upon arrival, your procedure will be explained to you and any further questions you have regarding the test can be answered. Your relevant medical history will be assessed, your heart rate and blood pressure will be checked, and you will be asked to sign a consent form.

You will then usually be given an oral medication known as a “beta blocker” to slow your heart rate to a level acceptable for performing the scan. Your heart beat will be monitored throughout the procedure and you will be given a contrast injection intravenously into your arm.

The contrast contains iodine and assists in seeing your vessels within the body. The actual scan itself will take approximately 15 minutes. You will need to follow breathing instructions during the scanning procedure.

Once the scan is complete, you will be asked to remain in the clinic for another 30 minutes to ensure any effects from your medication have resolved. Extensive computer processing and assessment is performed following the initial scan, hence your full report and images will usually not be immediately available for you to take with you.



POST EXAMINATION

You may eat and drink as normal.

After the test our medical specialist will study the images and issue a report on the finding. The report will be sent to the doctor who requested the examination. It normally takes up to seven days to complete the analysis and report.