



Patient Details

Name: _____

DOB: ____ / ____ / ____

- CT Coronary Angiography + ECG (Trace & Report)
- CT Coronary Angiography
- CT Calcium Score
- CT Other _____
- Consultation / Assessment for CTCA

Clinical Details _____

Contrast Allergy? Y N

Renal Compromise Y N

Metformin Y N
 (Withhold for 24 hours)

Pregnant? Y N

Creatinine: _____

eGFR: _____ Date: _____

Referral Eligibility

St Andrew's Specialist Centre

Level 8, 457 Wickham Terrace,
Spring Hill QLD 4000

Specialist Referral *(Medicare eligible)*

One of the following criteria must be present *(please tick where appropriate)*:

- Patient has stable symptoms consistent with Coronary Ischaemia, is at low to intermediate risk of Coronary Artery Disease and would have been considered for invasive Coronary Angiography.
- Patient requires exclusion of Coronary Artery Anomaly or Fistula.
- Patient will be undergoing Non-Coronary Cardiac Surgery.

GP referral

- Cardiac Consultation / Assessment for CTCA
- CTCA *(Non Medicare eligible)* _____

CTCA is technically difficult if:

- Unsuitable for Beta-blocker (eg severe asthma)
- Atrial fibrillation or severely irregular rhythm
- Severe renal impairment (please attach recent Creatinine or eGFR)
- Allergy to Iodine / Contrast

Please contact Queensland Cardiovascular Group for advice if you have any questions regarding your patient.

Referred By: _____

Provider No: _____

Ph: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

CT Coronary Angiography Preparation

1. Pre-Medication by Referring Doctor

- Referring doctor to prescribe Atenolol 50mg on the night before the CTCA and 50mg on the morning of CTCA, providing there are no contraindications and the patient's heart rate is >65 bpm.
- If unsuitable for beta-blocker then consider Coralan 7.5mg BD or please contact us for advice.

Unless

- Long term heart rate lowering medication with resting <HR 65 bpm or
- Resting Bradycardia with heart rate <60 bpm without medication.

2. Pre-Appointment Preparation by Patient

- It is important to have a slow and regular heart rate for the scan.
- Fast for 2 hours prior to CTCA, but continue to drink water and stay well hydrated.
- Do not consume products containing caffeine for at least 4 hours prior to CTCA. This includes coffee, tea, chocolate, energy and soft drinks.
- No Viagra, Cialis, Levitra, or similar products for 5 days prior to CTCA.
- Avoid strenuous activities immediately prior to your appointment.
- Continue to take all other medications as usual on the day of the scan, unless advised otherwise.
- Recent U&E (blood test) is required to be attached if patient has known renal failure or is a diabetic.



Appointment Date: _____

Appointment Time: _____

Please arrive 1 hour before this time.

What is a CT Coronary Angiography (CTCA)?

CTCA is the most sensitive non-invasive test for Coronary Artery Disease, using Computed Tomography (CT) to look at blood vessels that supply blood to the heart muscle, or "coronary arteries".

It is a fast way to allow your doctor to see whether or not plaque has developed in the coronary arteries that may result in blockages, potentially causing symptoms or increasing your risk of heart attack.

It is especially useful to decide whether or not the coronary arteries are the cause of current chest discomfort or shortness of breath.

CTCA at QCG:

CTCA Radiation dosage varies between sites and CT scanners. Our premium scanner uses more advanced technology than most on the market. This allows CTCA at QCG at St Andrew's to be performed for the lowest possible radiation dose - one of the lowest in Queensland - significantly lower than other tests and other CT sites. Our scans are supervised and reported by cardiologists who are leading experts trained specifically in multimodality cardiac imaging.

What to Expect:

- You will change into a gown and have your blood pressure and heart rate monitored. You may be assessed by a cardiologist, and may require additional medication to ensure a low and regular heart rate.
- You will have a cannula (plastic needle) inserted in the vein near your elbow and ECG leads placed on your chest to record your heart's electrical activity.
- You will be given GTN (Nitrolingual spray) under the tongue just before the scan to relax your coronary arteries, helping us to obtain the best images possible. This may give you a mild headache.
- You may notice a warm sensation and a metallic taste during the contrast injection. This is normal.
- Only your chest will be in the scanner, your head and legs will remain free during the test.
- For some scans, you need to hold your breath for up to 15 seconds and to lie flat for about 10-15 minutes.
- Although the scan time is fast, the whole process and preparation can be more time consuming. Allow for at least 2 hours.
- The effects of GTN only last a few minutes, while the effects of other heart lowering medications should wear off in less than a day.
- Allow a short period of time after your test for monitoring, if required. You may drive after this time.
- Your referrer will be notified directly of any urgent or unexpected findings on the day of your CT. Routinely, test results are available within 2 days. If you have any questions, please discuss with your referring doctor.

What are the Risks?

As with any medical procedure, there are some small risks associated with the scan:

- **Radiation:** X-rays are used during the scan. Typical dose around 1mSv – 4mSv depending on patient size and technique. At the lower dose, this amount of radiation is about the same amount of background radiation that you receive in a year from natural sources, such as cosmic rays.
- **Contrast Reaction:** Very rarely people experience an allergic reaction to the contrast (dye). This usually manifests as an itchy rash, which settles down by itself. Asthmatic patients may experience worsening of their asthma shortly after the injection. Patients with kidney failure require cautious contrast injection as contrast can (usually temporarily) worsen kidney function. There is a 1 in 250,000 chance of a life threatening (anaphylactic) reaction.
- **Contrast Leakage:** Very rarely the contrast goes into the tissue under the skin in your arm rather than into the vein. This can cause bruising, swelling and mild discomfort. This usually resolves by itself. We will perform a test injection using saline to help prevent this from happening. In addition, a member of staff will be with you to watch the injection.

CONSENT: Please sign below if you are happy to proceed with the scan and bring this form with you.

I _____ understand the above and give my consent to undergo CT scanning including assessment of the Coronary Arteries (CTCA).

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness: _____