

CT CORONARY ANGIOGRAM

This is a new test being used by physicians to diagnosis coronary artery disease. In the past the only way to see into the coronary arteries was by visualization during a cardiac catheterization.

During the CT Coronary Angiogram an IV is inserted and used to deliver dye into the coronary arteries. This allows your physician to image the coronary arteries without actually inserting a catheter into your heart.

The CT Coronary Angiogram will allow your physician to assess your coronary arteries for narrowing or blockage. If a patient has had previous stent placement the physician may have difficulty seeing inside the stent to assess for new blockages. In some cases the patient may still require the need for a Cardiac Catheterization to further assess narrowing or blockage of the coronary arteries.

There are still risks associated with this type of Angiogram. They include allergic reaction to the dye, if a patients kidneys are compromised the dye may worsen their condition. There is also a radiation exposure which is similar to, if not greater than, that of a Cardiac Catheterization.

The CT Coronary Angiogram is considered a very safe test for most people.

Your physician will discuss and decide with you which test and treatments are right for you based on your current medical condition.