Guidelines for In-Patient Cardiac CTA

See Practice Guidelines, under the Patient Care tab at http://xray.ufl.edu for more information. Or call Cardiac Reading Room: ext. 45691, Body Reading Room ext. 44385 with questions.

Criteria for Cardiac CTA
Patient felt to be low to intermediate pretest likelihood of having coronary ischemia as a cause of their chest pain.

Appropriate Indications for Cardiac CTA
- Chest pain in low to intermediate risk patient
- Chest pain in low to intermediate risk patient with borderline or mildly abnormal ETT
- Patient with possible coronary anomaly

Ordering Cardiac CTA and Beta Blocker Administration
Cardiac CTA order may be placed at any time.
The exam will be performed 8am – 4pm on weekdays and weekend days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekdays – Monday through Friday 8am – 4pm</th>
<th>Beta Blocker Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac CTA EPIC orderable: CT Angio Cardiac Coronary Arteries IMG 12017</td>
<td>Beta blocker: IV metoprolol 4 doses, 5mg each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiology will place orders in EPIC for IV metoprolol and sublingual nitroglycerine.</td>
<td>Administered by radiology staff RN just prior to scan until target rate of 66bpm is met.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The in-patient scheduled for cardiac CTA is managed by Radiology nursing staff.</td>
<td>Sublingual nitroglycerine 0.4mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The charge technologist should contact Radiology Care Unit or the nursing staff assigned to CT to discuss availability of nursing staff. The exam will be coordinated by the CT charge tech and the floor / unit nursing staff.</td>
<td>Administered by radiology staff RN 3-6 minutes prior to contrasted scan.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weekends – Saturday and Sunday 8am – 4pm</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac CTA EPIC orderable: CT Angio Cardiac Coronary Arteries IMG 12017</td>
<td>Beta blocker: 100mg oral metoprolol Until target rate of 66bpm is met.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ordering physician will place order in EPIC for oral metoprolol.</td>
<td>The patient’s nurse will report to CT the time that the beta blocker was given.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ordering physician will contact the radiology resident. Cardiac Reading Room: ext. 45691 Body Reading Room: ext. 44385</td>
<td>The Cardiac CTA should be done when the target heart rate of 66bpm is met.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The exam will be coordinated by the CT charge tech and the floor / unit nursing staff.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**IV Access**

18g preferred, 20g min  
Order of location preference:
- Right AC  
- Right mid forearm  
- Left AC  
- Left mid forearm  

All other locations are unacceptable for contrast bolus delivery for cardiac CTA.  
Other lines or catheters must be approved by the Cardiac Imaging Team or the radiologist/resident on call.  
Please see **IV Access Guidelines under the Patient Care tab at** [http://xray.ufl.edu](http://xray.ufl.edu) **for more information.**

**Contraindications for Cardiac CTA**

- Inability to hold breath or cooperate  
- Cardiac CTA performed within the last year  
- Increased cardiac enzymes  
- Creatinine level > 1.8.  
- Acute EKG changes  
- Pregnancy  
- History of severe contrast reaction  
- Arrhythmia  
- Renal insufficiency  
- Multiple myeloma  
- Sickle cell anemia  
- Pheochromocytoma

**Calcium Score**

- For calcium score values below 600, the contrast scan will be completed and the patient returned to the floor  
- For calcium score values above 600, the contrast scan may be cancelled by radiology  
- The ordering physician will be notified by the cardiac team or the radiology resident on call of this change

**Reporting of Results**

**Weekdays**
- Monday – Friday, 0800 – 1600 hrs…………….1 hour: full report available  
- Monday – Friday, 1600 – 0800 hrs…………….1 hour: preliminary report with calcium score  
- After 0800: full report available

**Weekends**
- Friday 1600 hrs – Monday 0800 hrs…………….1 hour: preliminary report with calcium score  
- Full report available after daily read-out