

(CTA) Cardiac Computed Tomographic Angiography

How should I prepare for the procedure?

Wear something that is comfortable and easy to remove as you may be asked to change into a gown. Metal objects interfere with the image quality so avoid clothing with zippers or snaps. Please be sure to fast 2 hours prior to the exam. Also, plan to arrive 30 minutes before the scheduled time of your test.

Your physician may have prescribed a beta-blocker (such as Atenolol) to take prior to the exam. Please follow the instructions your physician has given you in regards to this medication.

If you have been given a copy of the prescription for your examination, it is important that you bring it with you on the day of your appointment along with your insurance card and photo ID.

You should inform the technologist if there is any possibility that you are pregnant or if you are currently breastfeeding.

What can I expect on the day of my appointment?

When you arrive in our office, you will be asked to complete registration forms that will allow us to collect your medical history and any necessary insurance information. One of our technologists will escort you to the changing area. You may be asked to remove hairpins, jewelry, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and any removable dental work, depending on the part of the body that is being scanned.

You will be positioned on a table and move through the CT machine so that we are able to acquire the necessary images. You may hear humming sounds during the procedure as the x-ray tube and detectors rotate. You may be asked to hold their breath for certain studies to prevent motion artifact.

You should inform the technologist if there is any possibility that you are pregnant, have a history of kidney disease or a history of allergy to contrast agents.

CTA requires the use of an iodinated contrast material, also known as "x-ray dye." Intravenous (I.V.) contrast is given at the time of the examination. A skilled nurse technologist or physician will start the I.V., usually in the arm or hand, prior to the examination. The I.V. will be removed immediately afterward.

Please notify the nurse/technologist if you have a history of kidney disease or a history of allergy to contrast agents.

Our staff is available to address any questions or concerns that you might have before or after your appointment. Please call (212) 746-6000 if you wish to speak with us.

Cardiac CTA will take approximately 45 minutes.

Where do I go?

Please report to: Weill Cornell Imaging at NewYork-Presbyterian
520 East 70th Street, Ground Floor (between York Avenue and the East River)
New York, NY 10021

Cardiac MRI/Chest MRA

How should I prepare for the procedure?

Wear something that is comfortable and easy to remove. Please do not wear anything with metal for the exam such as clothing with zippers or snaps. Plan to arrive 30 minutes before the scheduled time of your test.

If you have any type of electrical, mechanical, or surgical implant within you, please notify our schedulers at the time your appointment is made and also the staff when checking in.

If you have been given a copy of the prescription for your examination, it is important that you bring it with you on the day of your appointment along with your insurance card and photo ID.

You should inform the technologist if there is any possibility that you are pregnant.

*If you are scheduled for a Cardiac MRI with Adenosine Perfusion, please DO NOT eat or drink any CAFFEINATED beverages/foods 24 hours prior to the exam.

What can I expect on the day of my appointment?

When you arrive in our office, you will be asked to complete registration forms that will allow us to collect your medical history and any necessary insurance information. One of our technologists will escort you to the changing area. You will be asked to remove and place your electronic devices, wallet, ATM/credit cards, metro-card, watch, jewelry, belt, hairpins, eyeglasses, hearing aid, or any removable dental work into the provided lockers.

Some Cardiac MRI and Chest MRA requires the use of contrast material, also known as "dye." If contrast is required, a skilled nurse technologist or physician will start an intravenous (I.V.), usually in the arm or hand, prior to the examination. The I.V. will be removed immediately afterward.

Please notify the nurse/technologist if you have a history of kidney disease or a history of allergy to contrast agents.

Before you enter the MRI scanning room, a technologist will review a safety questionnaire with you. We understand that this may seem redundant but your safety is our first priority. Once the technologist is assured that it is safe to proceed, he or she will escort you into the scanning room and help you get onto the MRI table. Once positioned, it is extremely important that you remain still during the examination. This will allow for clear images and will help us complete your test as quickly as possible.

Most MRI examinations take approximately 30 to 45 minutes.

Our staff is available to address any questions or concerns that you might have before or after your appointment. Please call (212) 746-6000 if you wish to speak with us.

Where do I go?

Please report to: Weill Cornell Imaging at NewYork-Presbyterian
416 East 55th Street (between 1st Avenue and Sutton Place)
New York, NY 10022