

Coronary CT Angiography (CCTA)

F a c t S h e e t

What is Coronary CT Angiography?

Coronary CT Angiography (CCTA) is the most advanced non-invasive CT exam available for detecting coronary artery disease.

Community Medical Center's new CT scanner, the only one of its kind in the region, creates 64 high-resolution anatomical images - thinner than a credit card - of your heart. This multi-slice technology provides precise diagnostic images of the beating heart and its major vessels. The scans are timed to use only images gathered between breaths so that the heart and its vessels can be seen without the blurring caused by motion.

Why should I consider Coronary CT Angiography?

CCTA offers you the opportunity to detect coronary artery disease in its earliest possible stage. The exam provides 360 degree images of the coronary arteries – the place where a heart attack originates. CCTA offers patients an alternative to cardiac catheterization. It can detect signs of heart disease not visible on an EKG, stress test, heart scan (calcium scoring) or cardiac catheterization. This diagnostic procedure detects not only calcified plaque but non-calcified plaque as well. Non-calcified plaques are more likely to cause heart attacks and sudden death.

What should I expect?

The procedure is non-invasive, as compared to cardiac catheterization, and does not require sedation or hospitalization. You will be asked to take a beta blocker to lower your heart rate and a cardiac nurse will monitor you during your stay. Exam times vary by patient but the actual test time, including contrast injection, is approximately 15 minutes. In addition, all of these exams are monitored by a radiologist or cardiologist. You should plan to spend up to three hours with us since pre and post procedure monitoring is necessary. The exam is completely painless.

How can I schedule an exam?

CCTA is now available at Community Medical Center. The first thing you should do is talk to your doctor to determine if CCTA is right for you. You will need a prescription from your physician and a referral from your insurance company depending on your specific plan. Some insurance companies may not pay for this procedure and many people elect to pay for the procedure themselves. If you are interested in payment options, we will gladly assist you.

COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER

An affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System
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Contact Information

**To schedule an
appointment call
732-557-8031.**

**For a referral to a physician
call 1-888-SBHS-123
(1-888-724-7123).**