

Name: Patient Test
DOB: 01/01/1962

PID: 6862727

CTA Coronaries Instructions

You are scheduled for a CTA Coronary Arteries at 3550 McKelvey Rd, Bridgeton, 63044 on _____ at _____ A.M./P.M., Please arrive at _____ A.M./P.M.

You will be given a medication to take, metoprolol, to slow your heart rate which allows for clearer images for the test. Your blood pressure and heart rate will be monitored by a nurse to determine when to do your CT scan.

During your test you will lie on a narrow, motorized table that slides through an opening into a tunnel. The tunnel is shaped like a large doughnut standing on its side. Straps and pillows may be used to help you stay comfortable and in position. An IV will be placed for contrast (also referred to as x-ray dye). While you are on the CT table, you will have several EKG pads placed to monitor your heartbeat closely. You will also receive a dose of Nitro to dilate the arteries in your heart.

While the table moves you into the scanner, the X-ray tube will rotate around you. Each rotation yields several cross-sectional images, like slices, of the inside of your body. You may hear buzzing, clicking and/or whirring noises, this is normal. During the test the dye will be injected through the IV. You may feel a warm sensation and/or a metallic taste in your mouth, this is normal.

***** If you have allergies to IV Dye, shellfish or iodine, please notify the office immediately. *****

A technologist in a separate room can see and hear you the entire time. You will be able to communicate with the technologist via intercom. The technologist may ask you to hold your breath at certain points to avoid blurring the images.

Instructions:

On the day before and day of your exam, please avoid:

- Diet pills and caffeinated drinks such as coffee, tea energy drinks or sodas. These may increase the heart rate and limit the ability of the exam to evaluate for plaque in the coronary arteries.
- Viagra or any similar medication. They are not compatible with the medications you will receive during the procedure.
- Do not eat or drink (anything other than water) 4 hours prior to your exam.
- Please hold **Metformin, Glucophage, Glucovance, Metaglip, Avandament, Janumet, Fortamet, Glumetza, Diaformin, Riomet, Diabex, Actoplus** the day of the exam and for 48 hours after.
- Other medications are fine to continue as long as you don't need to take them with food.
- Please leave any metal objects, such as jewelry, that might interfere with imaging results at home.

***** Please inform the technician BEFORE your test if you are pregnant, breastfeeding or suspect you may be pregnant. *****

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Frequently asked questions:

Will this test hurt?

CT scans are painless but you will have an IV placed for contrast to make your blood vessels and tissues more visible.

How long will the test take?

The number of scans required and total time for an exam will vary, but the whole procedure should take between 15-30 mins.

Will I need someone to drive for me after the CT scan?

No, the CT scan is a safe test that will not affect your ability to drive.

Will the radiation that I receive from the CT scan hurt me?

CT scans are similar to those of conventional X-rays. During the CT scan, you're briefly exposed to radiation. But doctors and other scientists believe that CT scans provide enough valuable information to outweigh the associated risks.

Do I need to have blood work done prior to the CT scan?

If you are over 50 you will need to have a blood test before the CT scan to check your kidney function. The blood test must be done within 30 days of the scan.

If for any reason you need to reschedule, please call the office at 314-741-0911 at least 24 hours prior to your exam.