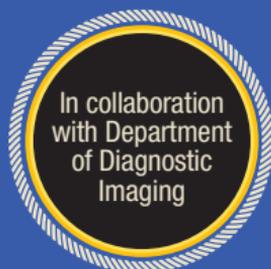




Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography

Scan the QR code to view patient education videos on NUHCS YouTube channel!



STEP 01



STEP 02



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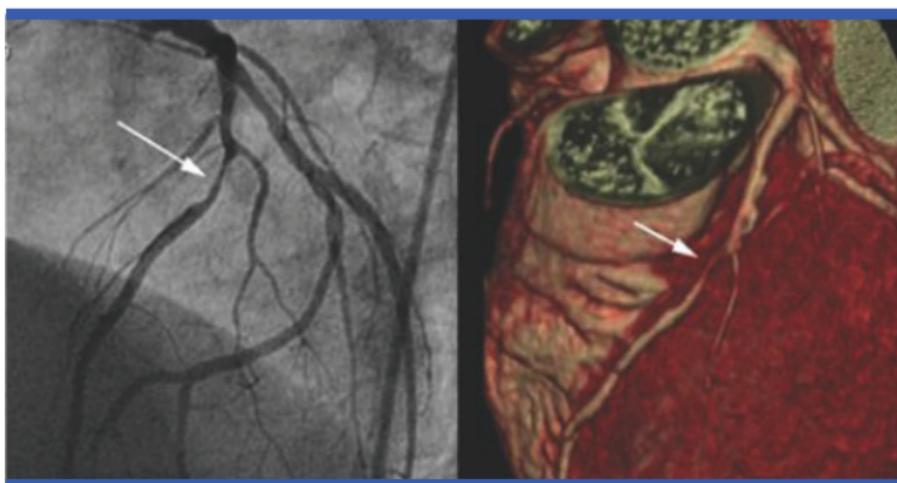


Scan here

What is Coronary Computed Tomography (CT) Angiography?

It is an advanced imaging modality that uses X-rays, coupled with computer technology, to produce detailed cross-sectional images of the internal organs of the body.

Coronary CT Angiography uses a 256 or 384 slice scanner to capture cross sectional and detailed images of the heart and is a highly accurate alternative to the conventional coronary angiogram.



Comparison of lesions on conventional coronary angiogram (left) and coronary CT angiography (right)

What can I expect before the procedure?

You will be required to fast for 4 hours prior to the scan. However, you can take your morning medicines with plain water, unless you are specifically instructed to omit certain medicine (such as metformin). You will be advised to go to one of the locations below for the scan:

Main Building Zone G, Level 2, G02-13

Kent Ridge Wing Zone C, Level 3, C03-04

Medical Centre Zone B, Level 4, B04-02

You may be given oral medication (beta-blockers) to slow your heart rate to an optimal level for the scan. It usually takes between 45 to 90 minutes for the medication to take effect.

Wear loose and comfortable clothing on the day of the scan. You may be asked to change into a gown. A locker to store your personal belongings will be available for your convenience.



What can I expect during the procedure?

As intravenous contrast is required for the scan to indicate the exact position of your heart vessels, a plastic cannula will be inserted into one of your veins by a nurse. During the injection of contrast, you may experience a warm sensation followed by a metallic taste in the mouth which should disappear after few minutes.



A radiographer will position you appropriately on a padded couch that will move through a round opening of the scanner. A liquid will be sprayed under your tongue for



better visualisation of the heart vessels. Electrodes will be attached to your chest to monitor your heart. The radiographer may instruct you to hold your breath for 5 to 15 seconds while the scan is being performed. For optimal imaging, it is important that you remain still during the scan and follow the breathing instructions.

As the couch moves through the opening, images of your heart will be taken. The scan takes no more than 15 minutes to complete. After the



scan, your blood pressure and heart rate will be monitored for about 10 minutes to ensure you are well before leaving.

Depending on the nature of the scan, the entire procedure, including preparation, may vary from 30 minutes to 2 hours.

What can I expect after the procedure?

You can resume normal activity after the procedure. If contrast agent has been administered, special aftercare instructions may be given. Your doctor will advise you of the results at your next appointment.

What are the potential risks/complications with this test?

Main risks of the procedure include:

- Allergic reaction to the contrast agents
- Leakage of the intravenous contrast outside of the vein

These risks are low and all necessary precautions will be taken to minimize such occurrences.

Important Points to Note

- Please inform us if you have **asthma, diabetes, renal problems or any drug allergy**.
- Patients who are diabetic may be required to stop medication 48 hours before the scan while patients with asthma and multiple drug allergies may be given premedication.
- Do inform your doctor and the CT radiographer if you are **pregnant** or unsure if you are pregnant.
- Do not use Viagra, Cialis, Levitra for 48 hours before and after the scan.

Should you have any queries or require further clarifications, please contact:

Department of Diagnostic Imaging

Tel : (65) 6772 3700

Fax : (65) 6772 5219

Email : DDI_enquiries@nuhs.edu.sg

Location



Getting to NUH

By Bus

Bus stop along Ayer Rajah Expressway (AYE):

SBS Transit Bus Service No: 97, 197, 198 (opposite NUH only)

SMRT Bus Service No. 963

Bus stop on South Buona Vista Road (outside Science Park I):

SBS Transit Bus Service No. 92, 200

Bus stop on Lower Kent Ridge Road (outside Kent Ridge MRT station):

SBS Transit Bus Service No.: 95

By Car

From Ayer Rajah Expressway (AYE), towards Changi Airport:

Take Exit 8 to South Buona Vista Road, turn right at traffic light and travel along South Buona Vista Road. Make a right turn at traffic light onto Lower Kent Ridge Road.

From Ayer Rajah Expressway (AYE), towards Tuas:

Take Exit 8 to South Buona Vista Road, go straight at traffic light junction onto Lower Kent Ridge Road.

By MRT Train

The Circle Line Kent Ridge Station is at our door step.

To get to NUH from the East West Line, transfer at the Buona Vista MRT Interchange to take the Circle Line and alight at the Kent Ridge Station.

Information in this brochure is given as a guide only and does not replace medical advice from your doctor. Please seek the advice of your doctor if you have any questions related to the surgery, your health or medical condition. Information is correct at time of printing (May 2021) and subject to revision without notice. Copyright© is held by the publisher. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in parts without permission is strictly not allowed.



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