

GENERAL PREPARATION FOR CORONARY CT ANGIOGRAPHY

- For FEMALES, inform the staff if you are pregnant or likely to be pregnant
- Preparation for CT study with intravenous contrast

If you are / have:-	
2 or more drug allergies	Steroid preparation generally recommended to be taken the date before scan, to reduce risk of possible allergic reaction / asthmatic attack
Asthmatic	
Diabetic	Stop Metformin (Glucophage) on the day of the test and for 2 days following

- All other prescribed medication to be continued.
- No food for 4 hours prior to scan (plain water is allowed).
- Please bring along all previous **X-rays, ultrasound, MRI films and CT films** that you may have

Additional Preparation:

- **** Avoid caffeine (coffee, tea, cola, green tea etc...) 24 hours before procedure.**
- Please fast for 4 hours before the scan. You may continue to take all prescribed medications (except for diabetic medicine - please refer to note 1a).
- The nurse will insert an IV cannula in your veins so that we can administer contrast during the scan.

About the Procedure

- Upon arrival, your heart rate will be monitored before your scan. To enjoy the lowest possible radiation dose from the scan, we require your heart rate to be under 65 beats per minute. If your heart rate is above 65 beats per minute, a beta-blocker (Metoprolol) will be served orally. This medicine requires at least half to an hour to take effect.
- When you are inside the scan room, electrodes will be attached to your chest to monitor your heart rate. Two sprays of GTN will be given under the tongue to dilate the heart vessels for better image quality.
- During scanning, you will be instructed to hold your breath every now and then, usually no more than 10 seconds each time. Please try your best to follow these instructions and keep still during these periods.
- Occasionally, some patients may suffer an allergic reaction to the contrast injected during the scan. This may require a period of treatment with medication or observation by the nurse and/or doctor in the department. Another uncommon complication is leakage of the contrast injection under the skin of the arm or hand where the injection cannula is inserted. This is usually treated by a compression bandage. Rarely, either of these complications may require hospital admission and treatment.