



GRAPEVINE CARDIOLOGY

CARDIOVASCULAR CT

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Instructions for CTA Chest, Abdomen, Pelvis, and Lower Extremities

Prior to examination:

If you are pregnant or could be pregnant, or if you are nursing, be sure to inform your healthcare provider and our schedulers.

If you have any drug allergies or previous history of reaction to I.V. contrast, or any reaction or sensitivity to iodine, *if you have any known kidney problems, please let us know.*

Continue taking medications as prescribed by your physician, unless instructed.

No food 4 hours prior to examination. You may take your medications with water. Please drink at least three **8oz glasses of water a day for three the days prior to your exam.**

Please bring a list of your current medications with dosages on the day of examination.

Patients taking **Metformin or medications containing Metformin (Glucophage, Avandamet, Actos plus Met, etc.) must be off this medication for 48 hours AFTER the test.**

Examination Day:

Ideal clothing would be loose-fitting, free of metal, and warm. The CT room is purposely kept cold to allow proper functioning of the equipment. Items such as t-shirts, sweat shirts, and sweat pants will avoid any interference with the test and keep you warm.

Belt buckle and/or other metallic objects must be removed prior to CT scan *of the abdomen, pelvis and lower extremities*. If you need to remove any clothing, a gown will be provided to you.

Arrive early to complete the registration process and appropriate forms and labs, if not already done.

Please notify the technologist if you have drug allergies or previous history of reaction to I.V. contrast, or any reaction or sensitivity to iodine, seafood, or shellfish.

If your kidney function has not been evaluated recently, a simple blood test will be performed on the day of the test which will allow us to evaluate your kidney function.

Once check-in, a nurse will perform an assessment of your vital signs. An IV catheter will be inserted into a vein in your arm.

You will be positioned on the table. The table will be moved into the scanner and the exam will begin. During the exam the table will move very gently and slowly. The exam takes 10 to 15 minutes.

When completed, the technologist will assist you off the table. The I.V will be removed once the images are processed.

After the Examination:

Once the images are processed, which may take 30 minutes, our doctor will discuss the initial results with you. A copy of the finalized CT report will be sent to your healthcare provider(s).

Be sure to eat and drink plenty of fluids after the procedure.