

Q: What is a coronary calcium score?

A: A calcium score is a measure used to estimate the amount of cholesterol plaque in your arteries. A higher calcium score can mean a higher likelihood of suffering a heart attack.

Q: Is this CT Scan right for me?

A: A CT Coronary Calcium Scan is recommended for men age 40+ and women age 45+ with one or more of these heart disease risk factors:

Hypertension (blood pressure greater than 140/90)
Cholesterol level greater than 160/LDL
Diabetes

Obesity
Tobacco use
Family history of heart disease

To determine if a heart scan is appropriate for you, you should make an appointment to see your primary care physician.

Q: Are there specific reasons I would NOT qualify for a heart scan?

A: Yes. Patients who have undergone Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts (CABG) are not candidates for this screening exam. These patients should continue to manage their existing disease in partnership with their cardiologist.

Q: Is a doctor's order required to have a CAC CT Scan?

A: Yes. Before scheduling your heart scan you should visit your doctor. This can provide additional information on your heart attack risk for your doctor to consider. This exam might include:

- A review of your medical history and your family medical history
- A physical exam, including blood pressure measurement
- A risk assessment, gae6ksa56(g)(e)-4(xaqr)-(3a)-6(5nav)-2(abpressu-4(ncr doc)-3(as)-6(exerc)-4(neteries6(u)5(ran