Guidelines for ED Patient Cardiac CTA

RPC Approval: April 2018
Next Review: April 2020
Division/Faculty: Cardiothoracic Imaging/Thoburn
Subject: Guidelines for ED Patient Cardiac CTA
Purpose: Indications and preparation of an ED patient scheduled for a cardiac CTA
Policy:

Criteria for Cardiac CTA
Patient felt to be low to intermediate pretest likelihood of having coronary ischemia as a cause of their chest pain.

Appropriate Indications for Cardiac CTA
Chest pain in low to intermediate risk patient. Patient with possible coronary anomaly.

Contraindications for Cardiac CTA
- Inability to hold breath or cooperate
- Cardiac CTA performed within the last year
- Increased cardiac enzymes, concerning for AMI
- Acute EKG changes, suggesting AMI
- Creatinine level > 2.0, if not on chronic dialysis
- Pregnancy
- History of severe contrast reaction
- Arrhythmia

IV Access (Please see IV Access Guidelines)
18g preferred, 20g min
Order of location preference: 1. Right AC; 2. Right mid forearm; 3. Left AC; 4. Left mid forearm.
All other locations are unacceptable for contrast bolus delivery for cardiac CTA.
Other lines or catheters must be approved by the Cardiac Imaging Team or the radiologist/resident on call.

Ordering Cardiac CTA
- ED will place order: CT Angio Cardiac Coronary Arteries IMG 12017
- ED will contact CT charge technologist by phone
- CT will verify the availability of an appropriate scanner
- CT charge technologist will notify ED if a delay of greater than 1 hour is expected
ED will verify that the patient meets the criteria listed above and provide the following for CT charge technologist:
- Pt Name
- MR Number
- Age
- Sex
- History
- Heart Rate
- IV access location and size
- Serum Creatinine level

Calcium Score
- For calcium score values above 600, the contrasted portion of the scan may be canceled by radiology.
- The ordering physician will be notified of this change by the cardiac team or the radiology resident on call.

Reporting of Results
Weekdays: Exam performed 0800 – 1700 hrs: Final report in EPIC, within 2 hrs
Exam performed 1700 – 0800 hrs: Preliminary report in EPIC, within 2 hrs
Weekends/Holidays: Exam performed 0800 – 0800 hrs: Preliminary report in EPIC, within 2 hrs