

## Coronary CT angiography (CCTA)

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### Why the scan is being done

With the help of the scan, illnesses in the coronary arteries can be detected.

### Getting ready for the scan

During the scan, it is important to have steady heartbeat.

To keep your heart rate as low as possible, do not drink any beverages that contain caffeine (coffee, tea, cola and energy drinks) for 12 hours before the scan.

Otherwise, you may eat and drink as normal. On the day of the scan, avoid physical activity that puts a strain on the heart and circulation. Do not smoke on the day of the scan.

Take your regular medications as normal.

Remove jewellery and piercings from the chest area before the scan.

Inform the radiographer before the scan, if you are hypersensitive to contrast medium that contains iodine.

If you are pregnant or suspect pregnancy, tell the radiographer before the scan.

### How the scan is done

The radiographer will place electrodes that measure your heart rate on your chest.

The radiographer will also insert a cannula into your vein for administration of medicines and contrast agent.

If necessary, you will be given a beta blocker prescribed by the radiologist to steady your heart rate.

You will also be given medication to dilate your coronary arteries.

During the scan, it is important that you lie absolutely still. You will lie down on your back on the examination table.

The table will move during the scan.

The radiographer will be able to see you, hear you, and talk to you at all times during the scan.

You will be given a contrast medium that contains iodine into a vein to improve visibility of your blood vessels and tissues.

The contrast medium causes a temporary sensation of warmth and you may have a metallic taste in your mouth. The contrast medium will be eliminated from your body through urine.

The scan takes about 30 minutes.

However, you should reserve slightly more time for your appointment.

## **After the scan**

Drink plenty of fluids after the scan.  
Drinking helps to eliminate the contrast medium from your body.

If you have a sensor that measures glucose in interstitial fluid, replace it with a new one.

## **Where do you get the results**

You will get the scan results from the referring outpatient clinic or ward.

## **Other considerations**

There is no separate fee for the scan; it is included in the outpatient clinic fee.

If you are unable to attend your scheduled scan appointment, please let us know as soon as possible.

A penalty fee will be charged for a missed appointment not cancelled in advanced.

## **Contact information**

If you have any questions about the scan, please call us:

Pori

Satasairaala Diagnostic Imaging,  
tel. 044 707 9202.

Phone hours:

Monday to Friday,  
8 am–2.30 pm.