

## CT ANGIOGRAPHY

### What is CT Angiography?

CT (computed tomography) angiography is a test that uses x-rays to evaluate blood flow in the arteries and veins throughout the body. As people age, cholesterol and calcium materials called “plaques” build up on the inner walls of the arteries. This is called atherosclerosis. This build up may cause a narrowing in the arteries, limiting the flow of blood. CT Angiography has been recently developed as a non-invasive way to evaluate for these blockages in the arteries and other vessels throughout the body. A variety of tests can be done to evaluate arteries and veins, but your doctor has determined that CT Angiography is the most appropriate for you.



### Why do I need to have this procedure done?

- Your doctor has recommended CT Angiography to evaluate the blood flow through certain arteries and veins in the body. This will determine if significant blockages are present.

### How should I prepare for the procedure?

- This procedure will be performed at the hospital
- Do NOT eat or drink any food or fluids for 4 hours before the test time.
- Once at the hospital, you will sign a consent form for the procedure.
- Blood test may be required prior to the test.
- An IV will be started in your arm.
- You will be taken to the CT scanning room and will lie flat on a table (as on the image above).

- Contrast dye will be injected through the IV and a series of pictures will be taken while you are in the scanner.
- You must lie as still as possible and may be required to hold your breath for short periods during the test.
- The test is painless though you may feel a warm, flushing feeling during the infusion of the contrast dye.

**Is there anything specific to do after the test?**

- Drink plenty of water to flush the contrast dye from your system
- You may resume your usual diet and activity after the test.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you!