

## Cardiac CTA Reminders

Thank you for choosing to have your exam performed at Concorde Medical Group Cardiology. There are several reminders for each patient undergoing a **Cardiac CTA**, also known as a **CT Heart with coronaries**. Please see the instructions below in preparation for your upcoming exam:

- Patients must arrive 20 minutes before the appointment at the reception desk
- Take all your daily prescribed medications, including blood pressure medications, except for antihistamines (unless if you have an allergy to contrast and need prep)
- If your ordering physician prescribed Metoprolol to take before the exam, please follow the instructions given by your physician
- If you take Viagra or Cialis, **DO NOT** take these medications for 72 hours prior to your exam
- Please do not wear any necklaces
- **Please hydrate well before your procedure and drink 1/2 to 1 liter of water the day of your procedure**
- **DO NOT** drink any caffeinated beverages, including de-caffeinated tea, at least 12 hours before your exam
- **DO NOT** eat 4 hours in advance of the scheduled appointment
- **DO NOT** apply cream/lotion to chest area

If you have any questions prior to your exam, please call 212-684-3305.

Your imaging procedure involves the administration of intravenous contrast agent (X-ray dye) that contains iodine which provides the radiologist with a more detailed picture that will help in interpreting your examination. Intravenous contrast/X-ray dye is administered by injection through a small needle placed into your vein. During the administration you may experience a feeling of warmth throughout your body. Some people report a metallic taste in their mouth. Both feelings are normal and temporary. The intravenous contrast has been in use for many years and is generally considered safe. However, as with any medication or pharmaceutical, a very small number of patients may experience a reaction related to its administration. Mild reactions such as transient hives, skin blotching or wheezing are noticed in less than 1 % of patients. More serious allergic reactions including major drops in blood pressure and potentially life-threatening events have been reported in approximately 1 in 10,000 cases.