

CT coronary angiography

Your doctor has referred you for a CT examination.

The treating unit will inform you of the time and place of the examination.

Computed tomography scan uses X-rays, and the scan provides information on the coronary arteries and the heart's structure.

Please reserve approximately 2 hours for your visit.

The examination usually takes approximately 30 minutes.

Patients who need urgent examinations may be examined before you.

Please see the arrival instructions or appointment letter for contact information, if you have any questions about the examination.

Before the examination

On the morning of the examination:

- Do not eat anything for 2 hours before the examination.
- Drinking liquids (water or juice) up until the examination is recommended.
- However, do not drink coffee or tea because they increase the heart rate.

- In addition, smoking should be avoided.
- However, any medication prescribed to you by your doctor should be taken according to instructions.
- **If you are hypersensitive to iodine contrast medium**, please inform the doctor who referred you to this examination as soon as possible.
- **If you are pregnant or you suspect that you are pregnant**, please inform the doctor who referred you to this examination as soon as possible.

During the examination

Before the examination, your need for premedication will be assessed.

A radiographer will measure your blood pressure and pulse and set up an intravenous line.

Coronary artery scans are most successful when the heartbeat is steady and the rate about 60 per minute.

If necessary, you will be administered medication to calm the heart rate, either orally as tablets or via the intravenous line immediately before the scan.

You will also receive two doses of nitroglycerin spray orally. Nitroglycerin makes the coronary arteries appear more clearly in the images.

First, the heart is scanned without the contrast medium and then with it. The contrast medium is injected into the circulation via the intravenous line.

During the scan, you must lie still and follow the breathing instructions given. The radiographer has a speech, hearing and visual contact to you.

The contrast medium causes a temporary feeling of heat and sometimes metallic taste in the mouth.

The contrast medium will excrete through the urine.

After the examination

You will receive the results of the examination from the doctor who treats you.

If you do not know how to find out the results, please contact the outpatient clinic or ward that referred you to this examination.

Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

You will not be charged for the examination separately.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.

Further information

For further information please visit:

[tutkimukseen.fi](https://www.tutkimukseen.fi) >> [Yleisimmät](#)

[kuvantamistutkimukset >>](#)

[Tietokonetomografia TT.](#)

The site is not available in English.