

CALCIUM SCORING

****PERFORMED AT EASTSIDE IMAGING ONLY****

Coronary artery calcification scoring (calcium scoring) is a non-invasive option for measuring and reporting coronary artery calcification scores. The calcium score measures the amount of calcium (arteriosclerosis) build-up in a patient's arteries utilizing a program on the CT machine.

This procedure can only be performed by a licensed Radiologic Technologist who has received and successfully completed 40 hours of training on the Calcium Scoring software.

TABLE WEIGHT LIMIT:

The CT table has a weight limit of 350 pounds. Patients exceeding this weight limit must be referred to another facility.

Importance of Calcium Score:

- Determines the patient's risk for having a heart attack.
- Is more accurate than a stress test in determining risk for a heart attack.
- Patient can have a negative stress test and still have significant calcium build-up.
- Patient can have significant calcium build-up and have no other symptoms of heart disease.

Benefits of Calcium Scoring:

- No referral required. Patient pays \$150 fee at time of service for the procedure.
- It is a non-invasive procedure.
- It only takes approximately 15 minutes to perform the actual study.
- It is not a claustrophobic test. (Patient is not confined to a small space during testing.)
- Post-study results are reviewed and interpreted by a Radiologist.

ORDERING PROCESS:

A written order by the referring physician is all that is needed to schedule an appointment.

EXAM RESULTS:

The patient will be sent the original color copy of the report in the mail. A copy of the report will also be sent to the patient's referring physician.

PATIENT FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Calcium scoring is considered an elective procedure, and is not currently recognized by any insurance as a reimbursable procedure. The ACP charge for the procedure is \$150 and is payable at the time of service. The procedure includes a limited, non-contrast CT of the chest; therefore, the cost of the study includes a Radiologist interpretation to specifically identify any abnormalities found during the procedure. The lungs and liver are not always fully visualized, but if an abnormality is noted in the lung and/or liver, this

will be noted on the calcium score report. However, if no findings are noted, a separate report will not be generated. At this time, ESI is unable to provide any discounted rate for calcium scoring. The \$150 rate is non-negotiable, and the 20% cash discount normally given to self-pay patients at the time of service does not apply to calcium scoring.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Eastside Imaging Only:

Exams are performed on a scheduled appointment basis Monday through Friday 8 AM –4 PM.