

#### Who should have a heart scan?

Men and women 35 or older who have at least one of the following risk factors are encouraged to have this test:

- Family history of heart disease
- Smoker or tobacco user
- High cholesterol
- High Blood pressure
- Overweight
- Sedentary or high risk lifestyle

# **HEART SCAN**

What information does a "Coronary Artery Calcium Score Exam" (Heart Scan) provide?

We can identify the buildup of plaque in the heart's arteries that can lead to heart disease and heart attack. When coronary artery plaque calcifies or hardens, it reduces the artery's size and the amount of blood that can flow to the heart. Calcified plaque can be seen by the CT scan. The amount of this calcified plaque present in your heart's arteries is related to risk for a heart attack.



## What is required of me during the exam?

No special preparation is necessary. Majority of the time you can wear your own clothing during the test. You will lie on the scanner table and a few electrodes will be placed on your chest. The table will slide into the CT scanner, which is a large donut-shaped machine. The scanner will pass over you three times as it creates images of your heart; each time you will be asked to hold your breath for a few seconds. This test is painless and normally takes 10 minutes

#### After the exam

There are not any special precautions you need to take after the test. You should be able to drive yourself home and continue your normal activities.

#### Results

You will be provided with a copy of your results shortly after your exam. Your healthcare provider will also receive a copy. It is important to discuss your results with your healthcare provider, since there are things you may be able to do to slow down, stop or even reverse heart disease.

### Cost

\$75.00 (Screening Procedure not covered by Insurance)

We encourage you to be informed and proactive about your heart health! Call us today to schedule your heart scan – no physician referral required.

580.251.8050

