

Since coronary artery disease (CAD) is the leading killer of men and women in the U.S., screening for heart attack risk with CT coronary artery calcium scoring (CT CACS or CTCS) makes sense as a tool for evaluating patients in the intermediate risk factor category.*

In two large-population-based studies**, CTCS demonstrated a high reclassification rate, elevating about a quarter of asymptomatic men and women in the intermediate risk cohort to the high risk category. This is invaluable information for patients and physicians when making decisions about lifestyle, medication, and interventional procedures. Also, the studies indicated that a significant number of people were reclassified to the low-risk category according to their exam results, which spares these patients unneeded medical treatment.

ARA offers this vital exam for \$125 at 13 of our Central Texas locations. CTCS is a very quick and low-radiation exam, making it easy for your patients. Be sure and ask your patients if they have any symptoms of CAD and notes these on the referral.

If you have any questions about CTCS, please contact our Provider Relations Associates at (512) 799-0806 or providerinfo@ausrad.com.

- * The American College of Radiology ACR Appropriateness Criteria rates CT CACS as "usually appropriate" for asymptomatic patients at intermediate and high risk for coronary artery disease.
- ** Polonsky TS, McClelland RL, Jorgensen NW, et al. Coronary artery calcium score and risk classification for coronary heart disease prediction. JAMA. 2010;303(16):1610-1616.
- ** Ferket BS, Genders TS, Colkesen EB, et al. Systematic review of guidelines on imaging of asymptomatic coronary artery disease. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2011;57(15):1591-1600.

