



**InteCardia**

A Prevention Service of  
Virginia Cardiovascular Specialists

## CT Angiography Patient Instructions

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Test Date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

CTA of \_\_\_\_\_ Test Time \_\_\_\_\_ am / pm

***Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment.*** Wear comfortable clothing. Shirts should not have metal snaps or buttons. Women will be asked to remove under-wire bras prior to testing.

### DIETARY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do not have any products that contain caffeine 12 hours before your test (e.g., chocolate, cola, coffee, tea, decaf products and some medications).
2. Do not use any tobacco products 6 hours before your test.
3. Do not eat solid food 4 hours before your test.
4. You may have clear, non-caffeinated liquids up to 1 hour before your test.

### MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS

5. If you have had any **previous allergic reactions** to contrast media (x-ray dye), please let your physician or the medical staff know immediately. You may be given a prescription for the following medication:
  - Prednisone – 60 mg the night before your test
  - Prednisone – 60 mg the morning of your testIn addition to this prescription, you will need to take the following over the counter medications prior to your test:
  - Benadryl – 25 mg the morning of your test
  - 1 of the following the morning of your test – Pepcid (20 mg), OR Zantac 75 (1 tablet), OR Tagamet HB 200 (1 tablet)
6. Patients are advised to **take all medications as prescribed the morning of the test with the exception of the following:**
  - Glucophage and Metformin – do not take 24 hours before or 48 hours after your test
  - Medications for erectile dysfunction:
    - Viagra or Levitra – do not take 24 hours prior to your test
    - Cialis – do not take 48 hours prior to your test
  - Decongestants – do not take 24 hours prior to your test unless otherwise instructed by your physician
  - Migraine medication – do not take 24 hours prior to your test
7. **CTA of HEART and THORACIC AORTA PATIENTS ONLY:** Your physician may order the following medication for you to take before your test:
  - Metoprolol – 50 mg late the night before your test (as close to midnight as possible)
  - Metoprolol – 50 mg 1 hour before your test

**FEMALE PATIENTS ONLY:** If you are pregnant or think that you could be pregnant, please inform your physician.

*\*Disclaimer: Payment from insurance companies is not guaranteed, even when preauthorization is obtained or no preauthorization is required.\**