

CT CALCIUM SCORE (CTCS) UPDATE

New data confirming CTCS as a valuable first-line test for people with no cardiac symptoms, for risk stratification.

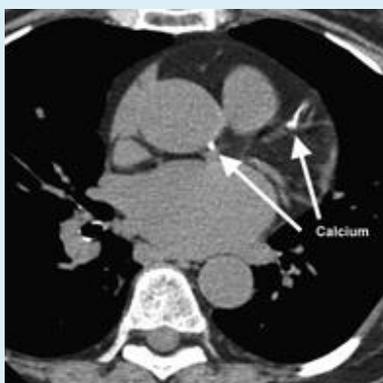
The current 2013 American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association guidelines have significantly broadened the scope of candidates eligible for statin therapy, stimulating much discussion about potential over-treatment.

A study published in October analysed prospective data from the Multi Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis, followed for ten years. The goal was to determine whether CTCS could effectively reclassify ASCVD risk among individuals currently eligible for statin therapy to a category where the guideline no longer recommends treatment.

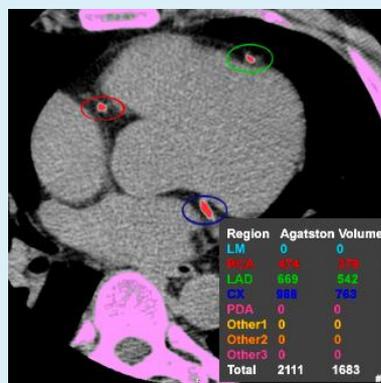
Major Findings:

1. Nearly 2/3 of adults aged 45-75 years are either recommended or considered for statins by current AHA guidelines.
2. Almost half of these candidates have no coronary artery calcium, and their actual risk is much lower than the threshold suggested by the guidelines to consider statin therapy. The greatest reclassification was noted in those at intermediate level of estimated risk by traditional risk factors.
3. The knowledge of significantly lower reclassified risk with absence of coronary artery calcium can be valuable in better informing patients of choices, who may consider avoiding statins to focus on prudent lifestyle changes.

Reference: J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015;66:1657-68



Arrows point to calcified plaque on CT



Example of scoring method

Guideline for extent of CAD

Calcium Score	Presence of Plaque
0	Nil
1-10	Minimal
11-100	Mild
101-400	Moderate
Over 400	Extensive

NEW ZEALAND IMMIGRATION ONSHORE PANEL PHYSICIAN NETWORK UPDATE

The branches below are part of the Onshore Panel Physician Network, which means these are the ARG Branches able to perform chest xrays for New Zealand Immigration Applications.

• 101 Remuera Road	09 529 4850	101-Reception@akradiology.co.nz
• Queen Street	09 357 0515	QueenSt@akradiology.co.nz
• Howick	09 535 6084	Howick@akradiology.co.nz
• Papakura	09 298 4106	Papakura@akradiology.co.nz
• Ti Rakau	09 273 8984	TiRakau@akradiology.co.nz
• Pukekohe	09 238 3887	Pukekohe@akradiology.co.nz
• Panmure	09 527 6793	Panmure@akradiology.co.nz
• Ponsonby	09 360 2493	Ponsonby@akradiology.co.nz

ROYAL OAK BRANCH REVAMP

Our Royal Oak branch has recently undergone a major reconstruction, resulting in a doubling of ultrasound capacity and a new reception area.



Auckland Radiology Group – Royal Oak Branch

CHRISTMAS HOURS

The following branches will be closed from the 29th December until Tuesday 5th January.

- Hauraki Corner
- Henderson
- Kohimarama
- Merton Road
- Panmure
- Queen Street

The Parnell branch will be closed from the 29th December until Monday 18th January.

The following branches which are attached to accident and medical clinics have reduced hours on public holidays and weekend days over Christmas and New Year's. Please check our website www.arg.co.nz for up to date hours.

- 122 Remuera Road
- Avondale
- Papakura
- Pukekohe
- Takanini
- Ti Rakau

All other branches are open normal working hours except public holidays.