

**Heart Imaging Center**  
**Phone: (336) 794-X-Ray (9729)**  
2025 Frontis Plaza Blvd.,  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
Fax: (336) 760-9694

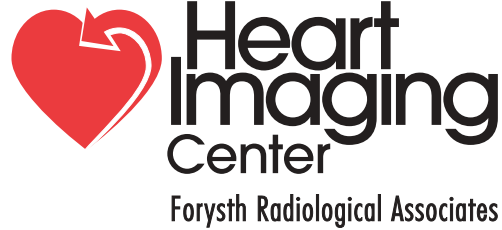
**Office Hours:**  
7:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday through Friday



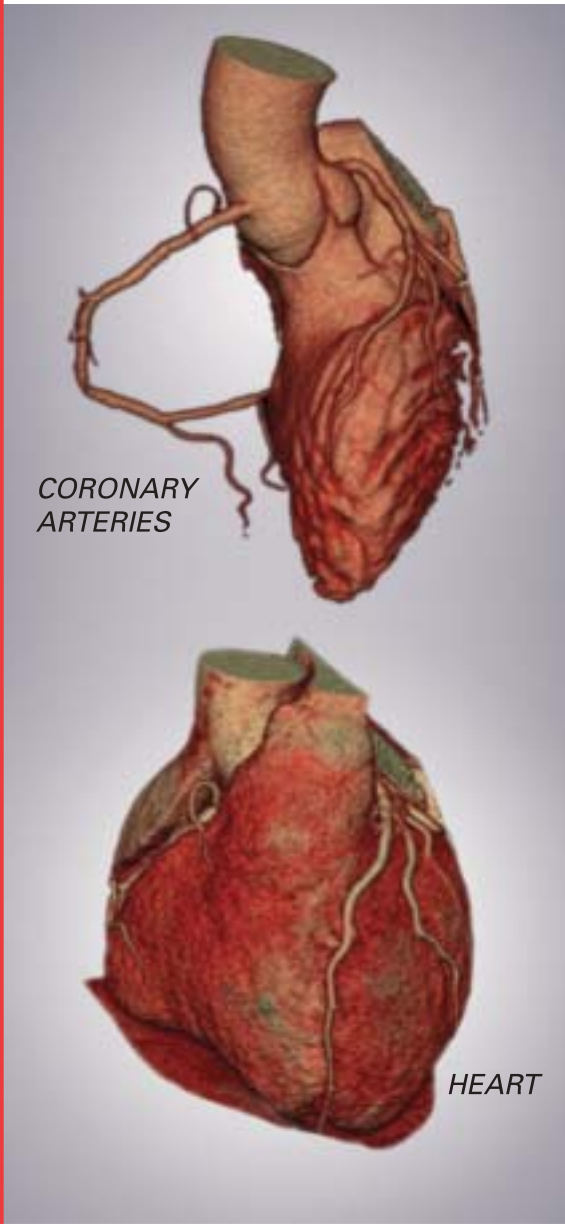
**Directions:**  
From New I-40 West: Hanes Mall Exit.  
Left on Hanes Mall Blvd. Left on Frontis  
Plaza. Greystone Building of Left

From New I-40 East: Stratford Road  
Exit. Right on Stratford Rd. Left on  
Hanes Mall Blvd. Right on Frontis Plaza.  
Greystone Building on Left.

CORONARY CT ANGIOGRAPHY



**Scheduling:**  
**(336) 794-XRAY (9729)**



**PATIENT PREPARATION**

**PATIENTS CAN EAT AS USUAL AND TAKE ALL OF THEIR MEDICATIONS.**

We only ask that patients not drink any coffee or caffeinated drinks the morning of or prior to the CT exam, as the images are much better at low heart rates. We prefer to see heart rates as low as 55 beats per minute (bpm), and will not guarantee good image quality if the heart rate is over 70 bpm. If the heart rate is elevated, we will need to give a medication, an oral beta-blocker to slow down the heart rate. This oral medication may take 1 to 2 hours to take effect.

The images produced by Coronary CT Angiography are often not optimal if the patient weighs over 250 lbs or in patients with contra indications to beta-blockers (such as severe asthma or COPD) or who have elevated heart rates.



*Dr. André Duerinckx preparing a patient for Coronary CT Angiography*

**HOW IS CORONARY CT ANGIOGRAPHY PERFORMED?**

For the patient it is the same experience as with any clinical CT study where X-Ray contrast is injected: it involves a prick in the arm, the injection of an X-ray contrast agent (also called a "dye"), and the actual CT scanning which only takes 16-20 seconds.

The whole procedure, in and out of the scanner, takes about 15 to 20 minutes total, except if the patient presents with a high heart rate. A CT technologist and a radiologist will work closely together when performing or supervising these studies.

There is virtually no danger to the patient. Routine precautions are taken as with all X-ray studies requiring the injection of a dye. All images are sent to a powerful computer for post-processing and three-dimensional renderings of the heart and coronary vessels are created.