

The role of cardiac CT during the COVID-19 pandemic

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Main role of coronary computed tomography angiography (CCTA) is to rule out obstruction in patients with suspected coronary artery disease (but no ST-elevation myocardial infarction), and to alleviate invasive cardiology of unnecessary diagnostic procedures. This is especially useful in situation of COVID-19 pandemic, since CCTA can be performed in outpatient setting, with very short times of personnel to patient exposure.¹ In 2020 we had 1393 patients on CCTA (a 30% increase from 2019), and in 69% we excluded obstructive coronary artery disease. We believe this shows that CCTA as first line strategy can, when appropriate, relieve invasive cardiology, and comparatively reduce COVID-19 transmission channels.

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LITERATURE

1. Knuuti J, Wijns W, Saraste A, Capodanno D, Barbato E, Funck-Brentano C, et al; ESC Scientific Document Group. 2019 ESC Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of chronic coronary syndromes. *Eur Heart J.* 2020 Jan 14;41(3):407-477. <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehz425>