

## Special Instructions:

Your appointment is scheduled for:

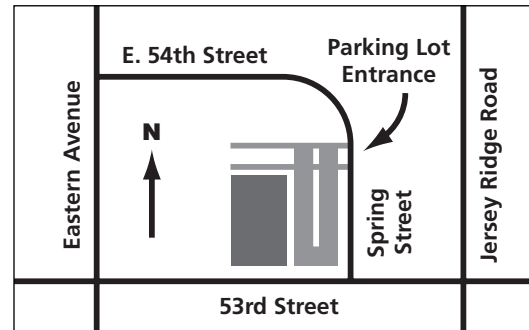
Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

If you cannot keep this appointment, please call (563) 359-3931 to cancel or reschedule.

## Driving Directions

1970 E. 53rd St., Davenport



### If you are approaching from the East:

Turn right on Spring Street (just west of TPC's building). Our parking lot entrance will then be on your left.

### If you are approaching from the West:

Turn left (north) on Eastern Avenue at the stop-light. Proceed two blocks to 54th St. and turn right. Follow 54th St. as it runs into Spring St. Our parking lot entrance will be on your right before you reach the stop sign at 53rd St.

# CT Angiography (CTA)



**RG**  
**Radiology**  
**Group** p.c., s.c.  
**Imaging Center**

*The Power to Know™*

## What is CT Angiography?

CT angiography (CTA) is a specialized exam that involves fast CT imaging while simultaneously injecting IV contrast into a vein in your arm. It uses x-rays to visualize blood flow in the arterial vessels throughout the body – from arteries serving the brain to those bringing blood to the lungs, kidneys, arms, legs, and heart. CT combines the use of x-rays with computerized analysis of the images. This allows for visualization of specific vascular anatomy of the organs in your body. It may be used for surgical planning. Compared to catheter angiography, which involves injecting contrast material into an artery (not a vein), CTA is much less invasive and an easier procedure for the patient.

## What is IV Contrast?

IV contrast is an iodine-based solution that is injected into your veins and appears very bright (white) on a CT image. This material allows for enhanced visualization of the blood vessels in your body. IV contrast is filtered from your blood by your kidneys and will be passed, unnoticed, from your body in your urine.



## What are common uses of the procedure?

CTA is commonly used to:

- Examine the pulmonary arteries in the lungs to rule out pulmonary embolism, a serious but treatable condition.
- Screen for cerebral aneurysm if there is a family history.
- Visualize blood flow in the renal arteries, those supplying the kidneys, in patients with high blood pressure and those suspected of having kidney disorders. Narrowing (stenosis) of a renal artery is a cause of high blood pressure in some patients and can be corrected surgically. A special computerized method of viewing the images makes CT renal angiography a very accurate examination. It is also done in prospective kidney donors.
- Identify atherosclerotic disease, aneurysm, or dissection in the body's main artery, the aorta, and its major branches, the iliac arteries.
- Detect atherosclerotic disease that has narrowed the arteries to the legs.
- Detect coronary artery disease.

CTA also is used to detect narrowing or obstruction of arteries in the pelvis and in the carotid arteries bringing blood from the heart to the brain.

## What will the exam be like?

As part of the exam, the patient lies on a scanner table and contrast is injected into a vein. Almost immediately, a special state-of-the-art high-speed scanner captures hundreds of cross-sectional images of the area being scanned. Afterward, a powerful computer reconstructs a 3-dimensional

semi-transparent image of the area that a physician can view from any angle.

## How do I prepare for the exam?

Please do not eat or drink anything for 2 hours before your test.

It is important that you inform the technologist before your exam if:

- You have asthma
- You are allergic to any foods or medications, specifically to iodine or contrast media
- You may be pregnant or breastfeeding
- You are diabetic and taking Glucophage (metformin)

## How long does the exam take?

The time required for the exam is different for everyone. Because a CT angiogram is a specialized exam it could take from 10 to 20 minutes from the time you enter the room.

## What can I expect after the exam?

You may resume your normal daily routine after your exam. Because you were given IV contrast for your exam, be sure to increase your fluid intake to help clear the material from your system.

## When will I receive my exam results?

A Radiologist will review the results of the CT scan and will report the findings to your doctor who will then explain them to you. Your doctor should have access to your exam results in 24 to 32 hours.