

Notes:

Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography (CCTA)

Halifax Infirmary

This pamphlet is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice or professional judgment of a health care provider. The information may not apply to all situations. If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

Find all patient education resources here:
www.nshealth.ca/patient-education-resources

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time:
Call 811 or visit: <https://811.novascotia.ca>

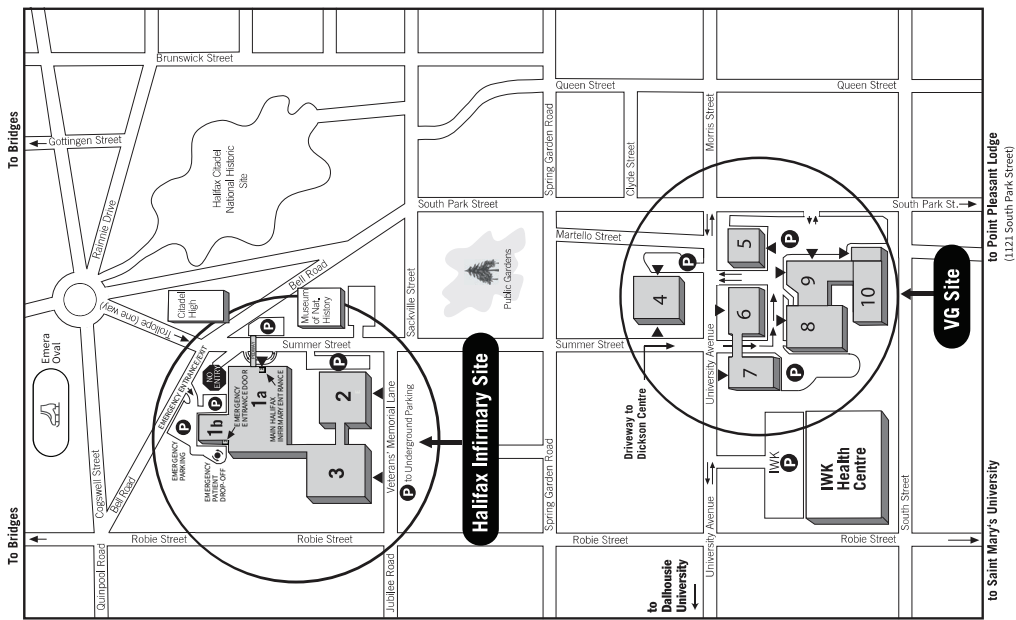
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QEII Health Sciences Centre

is made up of 10 buildings located on two sites

Halifax Infirmary Site	
1a.	Halifax Infirmary
1b.	Emergency Dept.
2.	Abbie J. Lane Memorial Building
3.	Camp Hill Veterans' Memorial Building
VG Site	
4.	Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre
5.	Bethune Building
6.	Mackenzie Building Laboratories
7.	Centre for Clinical Research
8.	Dickson Building
9.	Victoria Building
10.	Centennial Building



Please do not wear scented products when you come to the QEII.

- You may get a spray of nitroglycerin under your tongue. The radiologist will talk with you about this, if needed.
- You will be given X-ray contrast dye through your I.V.
- The CT scan will take pictures of the arteries to your heart.
- **Try your best to relax during the test.**

What will happen after the test?

- You may have to stay for about 15 minutes after your test. This is to check that you do not have an allergic reaction to the X-ray dye.
- You may eat as usual.
- Drink lots of fluids. This will help to flush the dye from your system.
- **Do not drive right after the test.** You must have someone drive you home.
- The doctor who ordered the test will get the results 24 to 36 hours (1 to 1½ days) after the test. They will contact you about your results, as needed.

Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography (CCTA)

What is a CCTA?

A CCTA is a test that looks at the arteries that bring blood to your heart. The test is done with a computed tomography (CT) scan machine.



How do I get ready for the test?

- **Do not** drink caffeine (like coffee, tea, or cola) for 12 hours before the test.
- **Do not** eat for 2 hours before the test.
- **Do not** take Viagra®, Cialis®, or Levitra® for 48 hours (2 days) before this test.
- Take all other medications as usual unless your doctor tells you not to.
- Your doctor may ask you to take a beta blocker medication (like metoprolol, atenolol, or bisoprolol) before your test. **Please remember to take it.**
- Arrange for someone to drive you home after the test. **Your test may be rebooked if you do not have someone to drive you home.**

Day of the test:

- Have someone come with you to the hospital. **You must have someone drive you home after the test. Do not drive yourself home.**
- Bring a list of your medications (or bring your medications in their original containers). This includes prescription and over-the-counter products, inhalers, creams, eye drops, patches, herbal products, vitamins, and supplements.

- The test will be done in the Diagnostic Imaging Department at the Halifax Infirmary (see map at the end of this pamphlet).
- Go to the 3rd floor and register at the Diagnostic Imaging registration desk.
- A nurse will check your blood pressure and pulse.
- You may be given medications to slow your heart and help you relax.
- You will be asked to change into a hospital gown.
- You will be taken to an exam room and asked to lie on an exam table.

Who will do the test?

A CT technologist will do your test. A cardiac (heart) radiologist will supervise the test.

What will happen during the test?

- The test will take about 30 minutes.
- You will have an intravenous (I.V.) put into a vein in your arm.
- Small, sticky patches will be put on your chest. These will be attached to a heart monitor. Your chest area may need to be shaved and cleaned.