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Non-Invasive Imaging Discussion Cases:

Risk Assessment
 Anatomic vs. Functional approach

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For a

Case #1

- 49-year-old man with a family history of premature coronary artery disease and borderline hyperlipidemia (LDL-C = 135 mg/dL)
- Not currently on any preventive pharmacotherapy

2018 Cholesterol Guidelines -Role of CAC



Grundy, Scott M., et al. Journal of the American College of Cardiology 73.24 (2019): e285-e350.

- 49-year-old man with a family history of premature coronary artery disease and borderline hyperlipidemia (LDL-C = 135 mg/dL)
- Not currently on any preventive pharmacotherapy



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For a

Case #2

- 54-year-old woman with a family history of premature coronary artery disease, yet LDL = 101 mg/dL
- Only risk factor is elevated lipoprotein(a) of 175 nmol/L
- Not currently on any preventive pharmacotherapy

Assessment of Coronary Artery Calcium Scoring to Guide Statin Therapy Allocation According to Risk-Enhancing Factors: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis





2020 Endocrine Society Recommendations

In patients with additional risk-enhancing factors, including elevated lipoprotein(a), as described below, risk assessment should consider traditional 10-year atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease risk assessment and the presence of risk-enhancing factors. The coronary artery calcium score should be considered when risk assessment and treatment decisions remain uncertain.

- 54-year-old woman with a family history of premature coronary artery disease, yet LDL = 101 mg/dL
- Only risk factor is elevated lipoprotein(a) of 175 nmol/L
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For a

Case #3



- 56-year-old man with moderate exertional chest pain, hyperlipidemia (LDL = 141 mg/dL), and lateonset CHD in father
- Not currently on aspirin or statin

SCOT-HEART Trial

Coronary CT Angiography and 5-year Risk of Myocardial Infarction

The SCOT-HEART Investigators

In an open-label, multicenter, parallel-group trial, we randomly assigned 4146 patients with stable chest pain who had been referred to a cardiology clinic for evaluation to standard care plus CTA (2073 patients) or to standard care alone(2073 patients). Investigations, treatments, and clinical outcomes were assessed over 3 to 7 years of follow-up.





- 56-year-old man with moderate exertional chest pain, hyperlipidemia (LDL = 141 mg/dL), and lateonset CHD in father
- Not currently on aspirin or statin

Coronary CT Angiography

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For a

Case #4



- 69-year-old woman with consistent, exertional chest pain and shortness of breath walking up stairs
- History of CAD she had 2 stents 2 years ago, another one last year
- LVEF 40%

Coronary CT Angiography vs Stress Testing

Favors use of CCTA

- Rule out obstructive CAD
- Detect Nonobstructive CAD
- High quality imaging and exert interpretation routinely available
- Age <65
- Prior functional study inconclusive
- Anomalous coronary arteries
- Require evaluation of aorta or pulmonary arteries
- Favors use of stress imaging
 Ischemia guided management
 High quality imaging and expert interpretation routinely available
 Age ≥65
 Prior CCTA inconclusive
 Suspect scar (especially if PET or stress CMR available)
- Suspect coronary microvascular dysfunction (when PET or CMR available)

Evaluation of known obstructive CAD





- 69-year-old woman with consistent, exertional chest pain and shortness of breath walking up stairs
- History of CAD she had 2 stents 2 years ago, another one last year
- LVEF 40%



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For a

Case #5



- 47-year-old woman with familial hypercholesterolemia and chronic mild chest discomfort mostly at rest and sometimes with light exertion
- LDL=92 on high intensity statin and ezetimibe
- Not currently taking aspirin

Absence of coronary artery calcification in middle-aged familial hypercholesterolemia patients without atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease



Coronary artery calcium and cardiovascular events in patients with familial hypercholesterolemia receiving standard lipid-lowering therapy



Miname, Marcio H., et al. JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging 12.9 (2019): 1797-1804.

Using CAC to modify pretest probability: CAC as a gatekeeper to CTA/Stress testing

Pretest probability based on age, sex, and symptoms

Pretest probability based on age, sex, symptoms, and CAC score⁺

Low	Intermediate-High		
≤15%	>15%		
≤15%	>15%-50%		>50%
	CAC	CAC	CAC
	1-99	≥100-999	≥1,000



- 47-year-old woman with familial hypercholesterolemia and chronic mild chest discomfort at rest and with light exertion
- LDL=92 on high intensity statin and ezetimibe
- Not currently taking aspirin

CAC vs Coronary CT Angiography

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Case #6

- 58-year-old woman with palpitations
- Occur weekly, last 30-60 minutes at a time, feel like very rapid regular heart "racing"
- Possible soft murmur at left upper sternal border

Portable EKG monitor





- 58-year-old woman with palpitations
- Occur weekly, last 30-60 minutes at a time, feel like very rapid regular heart "racing"
- Possible soft murmur at left upper sternal border
- Ambulatory EKG Monitoring + Echocardiogram