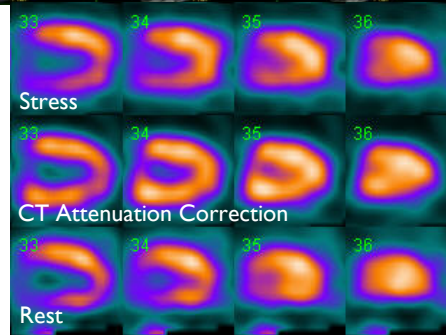
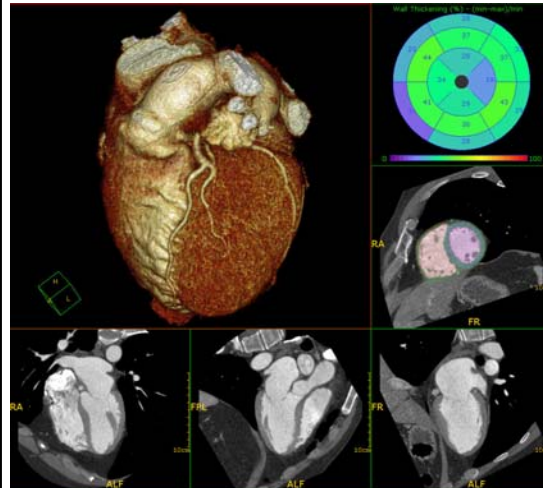




COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Cardiac SPECT/CT



Columbia University Medical Center
Division of Cardiology
Section of Nuclear Cardiology



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New Generation of Scanner in Nuclear Cardiology Offers Expanded Services

This combined 16-slice CT scanner with state-of-the-art Gamma Camera will allow the use of a non-diagnostic (low dose) CT scan to correct the nuclear scan for attenuation. This may help to improve diagnostic accuracy in obese patients and other patients where soft tissue attenuation, for example from a prominent diaphragm or breast, may artifactually introduce a perfusion defect. Other technical advances incorporated into the gamma camera design improve spatial resolution and image reconstruction, especially benefiting patients with small heart size, as is commonly seen in elderly women, where small perfusion defects can be missed using traditional gamma cameras.

New procedures offered:

Coronary artery calcium (CAC) scoring that can be ordered as a single test or combined with myocardial perfusion imaging. Data in the literature indicates that with a CAC score of zero, there is less than a 3% chance of a positive stress nuclear scan. Based on this finding, if a combined test is ordered we can perform the CAC scan first and if the calcium score is zero then perform only a treadmill test to provide functional information.

CAC scores will be performed in addition to nuclear perfusion imaging to evaluate the value of CAC alone to more rapidly evaluate level III chest pain patients.

CAC scores will be available to evaluate patients with new onset cardiomyopathy for underlying ischemic cardiomyopathy.

Pulmonary vein CTA will be available prior to atrial arrhythmia ablation procedures.

CT coronary angiography will be available.

As we develop increased experience with these new resources, we plan to expand the services offered.

