



**Mount
Sinai
Heart**

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Tamara Syrek Jensen, J.D.
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Director, Coverage and Analysis Group
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Ms. Jensen and Colleagues:

As the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, past president of the American Heart Association, and past president of the World Heart Federation, I am writing in strong support for a national coverage determination for coronary artery calcium (CAC) scoring. This test is recommended by the latest guidelines from the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, and 12 other national medical organizations.

Powerful, consistent evidence behind the recent guidelines creates a professional and ethical obligation for physicians to order CAC testing for their patients who meet indications for this diagnostic test. CAC scoring identifies high-risk patients at risk of fatal events who should be treated with preventive interventions and identifies low-risk individuals who can avoid unnecessary drug therapy and other diagnostic procedures.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any pertinent information you require. I will be happy to help in any way I can, and if needed, I will come to CMS to testify in person.

I hope CMS will expedite the approval process.

Sincerely yours,



Valentin Fuster, M.D., Ph.D.