

Healthcare providers use carotid angiography to find blockages in, or narrowing of, the carotid arteries that move blood from your heart to your head and brain. These large arteries are on either side of your neck. Providers inject contrast dye through a catheter to make the arteries visible and take images to see any obstructions.

Your provider may recommend carotid angiography if you have the following:

- Symptoms of a TIA
- Stroke-like symptoms
- Dizziness or fainting
- Temporary loss of vision
- Significant carotid artery narrowing found on imaging
- Planning for carotid stenting or surgery

When Should I Call My Doctor?

Contact our office immediately if you experience:

- Severe bleeding from the catheter sight
- Increasing swelling or pain
- Fever over 100.4
- Numbness or weakness
- Difficulty speaking
- Vision changes
- Chest Pain
- Shortness of breath

Call 911 Immediately if you have signs of a stroke:

- **Face drooping**
- **Arm weakness**
- **Speech difficulty**
- **Sudden confusion**
- **Sudden severe headache**



Carotid Angiography

**Main Office:
3900 University Blvd. S.
Jacksonville, FL**

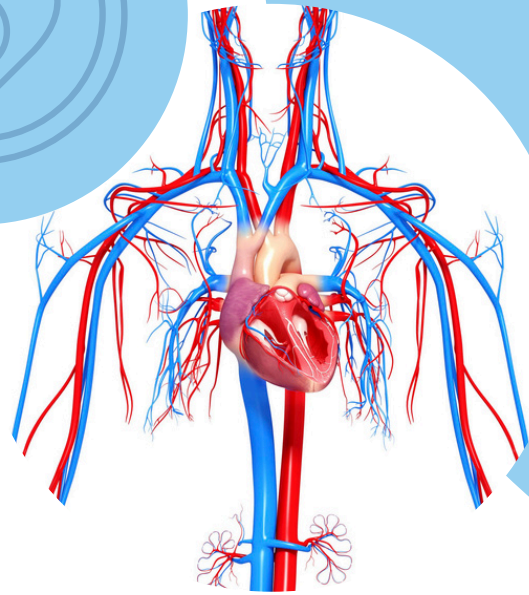
Scheduling: 904-222-6656

Cath Lab: 904-475-2050

www.drashchiheart.com

Your Procedure:

- You will be awake for the procedure, but your doctor will give you medicine to feel comfortable and relaxed.
- The doctor will numb the area, usually the wrist or groin, and inserts a thin, flexible catheter.
- The catheter is guided to the arteries in your neck using x-ray assistance. You will not feel the catheter moving inside your body.
- A contrast dye is injected through the catheter. You may experience a brief warm sensation.
- The dye makes blood vessels visible on x-ray images, allowing the doctor to see if there are any narrow areas or blockages.
- Treatment may be preformed if needed. If the blockage is significant, the doctor may be able to treat it during the same procedure using a balloon and/or stent to improve blood flow.
- Once the procedure is complete, the catheter is removed and pressure is applied to prevent bleeding.



Every 40 seconds, someone in the United States has a stroke.

Many strokes are caused by reduced blood flow or blood clots originating from diseased carotid arteries. Identifying carotid artery disease early can help reduce risk.



What you can expect after your procedure:

- You'll be monitored by the cath lab staff for several hours following the procedure
- Drink plenty of fluids unless instructed otherwise
- Avoid strenuous activity for 24-48 hours

Frequently Asked Questions

Will the procedure hurt?

You may feel a brief pinch with the local anesthetic is given. Most patients feel pressure, but little discomfort.

Will I be asleep?

No. Most patients remain awake and receive medication to help them relax.

How long does it take?

The procedure last 30-60 minutes, although preparation and recovery may last several hours.

Will I need to stay overnight?

No. Most patients go home the same day unless another procedure is performed or your physician recommends observation.