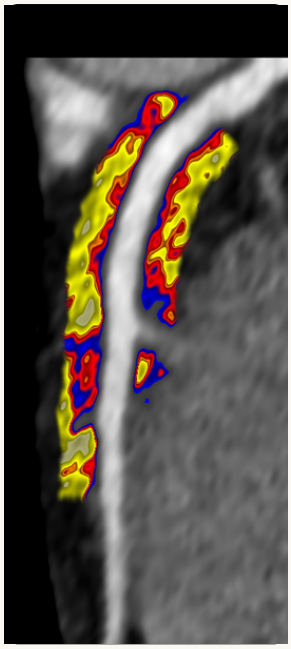
INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

FAI. A new perspective on your coronary arteries.

The Fat Attenuation Index (FAI) adds information about inflammatory activity to the assessment of coronary CT images. We consider the result alongside your personal risk factors and other findings.

Coronary CT

FAI analysis



What is measured?

Inflammation in the vessel wall can change the fat surrounding the artery. These changes affect its CT attenuation and can be assessed with FAI.

What is different?

Calcium scoring measures calcified plaque. Coronary CT angiography also shows plaque and narrowing. FAI adds a further view of inflammatory activity.

How is it analysed?

We use Caristo's CaRi-Heart® technology to assess suitable CT images. The report supports personal medical interpretation.

What can the result mean for you?

The findings can add to an individual cardiovascular risk assessment, including when no major narrowing is present. We discuss what the result means for prevention and any further treatment. A single FAI value is not a diagnosis and does not rule out a future cardiac event.

FAI supplements clinical assessment. The appropriate examination is selected according to your individual medical situation.

Illustrations: Caristo Diagnostics · CaRi-Heart®. Illustrative manufacturer images, not an individual patient report.

YOUR PATH TO ASSESSMENT

From CT images to personal advice.

Four steps help put the findings into the context of your health.

01 **Discuss the clinical question**

We review your history, symptoms and risk factors, and decide whether the additional analysis could be useful.

02 **Review suitable CT images**

We check existing coronary CT data with the radiology team or arrange an appropriately indicated scan.

03 **Perform the CaRi-Heart analysis**

Caristo analyses suitable images. The report adds an inflammation assessment to information about vessel structure and plaque.

04 **Understand the findings together**

We explain the results and discuss appropriate steps for prevention and any further treatment.

Before your assessment

If suitable CT images already exist, the FAI analysis itself does not require another scan. If a new coronary CT is needed, we discuss contrast medium and radiation exposure beforehand. The manufacturer instructions specify ages 30–80 and technical image requirements.

FAI is an additional GOÄ service. Private reimbursement depends on indication and policy. Statutory health insurers do not reimburse this service.

Questions about FAI? We are here for you.

+49 211 838 628 50 · info@epccheckup.com

Sources: ORFAN, The Lancet (2024); CRISP-CT, The Lancet (2018); CaRi-Heart Instructions for Use (2026).
ORFAN: doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(24)00596-8 · caristo.com