

## Significant association of coronary artery calcification with heart failure in patients without a history of coronary artery disease

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**T**raditional risk assessment for coronary artery disease (CAD) using coronary risk factors has been refined with the selective use of coronary artery calcium (CAC). This is possible because CAC is pathognomonic of atherosclerosis, and a histological study showed its close correlation with the atherosclerotic plaque burden. The severity of CAC can be easily quantified by electron beam computed tomography (CT) or multi-detector CT (MDCT). CAC is currently a useful marker of subclinical CAD and an independent predictor of cardiovascular events. CAD is a risk factor for HF, but information on the association of CAC scores with HF is still lacking. It is possible that measuring CAC score may identify patients at high risk for heart failure. In this session, I will review clinical significance of measuring CAC score in the setting of cardiovascular disease. Also, I will discuss about the future of assessing CAC score.

### Speaker Biography

Satoru Sakuragi, MD, PhD, is an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases, including hypertension, dyslipidemia, atherosclerosis, peripheral arterial disease, and coronary artery disease. He graduated Okayama University Medical School in 1992. He subsequently completed his residency of cardiology at Okayama University Hospital. Then, he obtained his PhD from Okayama University Graduate School of Medicine. After that, he had studied at the Canberra Hospital in Australia as a clinical research fellow for two years. He is a board-certificated physician of the Japanese Cardiology Society, the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine, the Japanese Association of Cardiac Rehabilitation, and the Japanese Association of Cardiovascular Intervention and Therapeutics. He is also a fellow of the Japanese college of Cardiology and the European Society of Cardiology. Dr. Sakuragi is currently the chief of Dep. Of Cardiovascular medicine at Iwakuni Clinical Hospital, Yamaguchi, Japan. His clinical interests include the diagnosis and treatment of ischemic heart diseases. He has especially focused on non-invasive assessment of atherosclerosis and coronary artery disease. He is actively involved in cutting edge research and has published his work in prestigious journals as well as presented his work at several national Cardiology meetings.

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