

# Adding number of vessels with CAC ups prediction of CVD events

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(HealthDay)—Inclusion of the number of vessels with coronary artery

calcium (CAC) improves the capacity of the Agatston CAC score to predict cardiovascular events, according to a study published online April 13 in *JACC: Cardiovascular Imaging*.

Michael J. Blaha, M.D., M.P.H., from the Johns Hopkins Ciccarone Center for the Prevention of Heart Disease in Baltimore, and colleagues studied 3,262 individuals with baseline CAC >0 from the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis. The authors examined the number of [coronary vessels](#) with CAC and classified patients according to concentrated and diffuse CAC patterns.

The researchers found that there were 368 [coronary heart disease](#) (CHD) and 493 cardiovascular disease (CVD) events during follow-up (median, 10.0 years). There was considerable heterogeneity between CAC score group and number of vessels with CAC (P

"The number of coronary arteries with calcified plaque, indicating increasingly 'diffuse' multi-vessel subclinical atherosclerosis, adds significantly to the traditional Agatston CAC score for the prediction of CHD and CVD events," the authors write.

**More information:** [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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