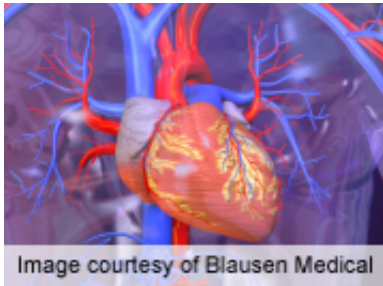


Fasting plasma glucose beats HbA1c for diabetes screening

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For patients without diabetes undergoing coronary angiography, fasting plasma glucose performs better in diabetes screening than glycated hemoglobin, according to a study published online Dec. 13 in *Diabetes Care*.

(HealthDay)—For patients without diabetes undergoing coronary angiography (CAG), fasting plasma glucose (FPG) performs better in diabetes screening than glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c), according to a study published online Dec. 13 in *Diabetes Care*.

Jun-Sing Wang, M.D., from the Taichung Veterans General Hospital in Taiwan, and colleagues compared HbA1c and FPG as screening tools for diabetes using an [oral glucose tolerance test](#) (OGTT) in 400 patients without known diabetes undergoing CAG. OGTT and HbA1c were assessed two to four weeks after hospital discharge.

The researchers note that 20.8 percent of the patients were diagnosed with diabetes. FPG had a higher area under the receiver operating characteristic curve than HbA1c (0.81 versus 0.73; $P = 0.032$). A proposed screening algorithm was validated in an additional group of 170 patients. The algorithm had a sensitivity of 74.4 percent and a specificity of 100 percent and reduced the number of OGTTs by 71.4 percent.

"In summary, we reported that the FPG test

performed better than HbA1c in screening for diabetes in patients undergoing CAG," the authors write. "We proposed a screening algorithm, and its efficacy and practicability need further investigation."

More information: [Abstract](#)
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