Letter to the Editor

Comparison of spiral and electron beam tomography in the evaluation of coronary calcification in asymptomatic persons

S. Silber*

Department of Cardiology, Muller Hospital, Am Isarkanal 36, 81379 Munich, Germany

Received 10 August 2001; accepted 30 November 2001

In a previously published article, Budoff and coauthors suggest to be cautious regarding calcium scanning using spiral CT especially in patients with relatively low calcium scores (<200) [1]. However, the technology used in that study (Siemens Somatom Plus 4A) is outdated and does not represent the current state of the art regarding calcium scanning. The rotation time applied was 750 ms (today: 500 ms). More important, the authors did not use any form of ECG-triggering. In a recently published study [2] we have shown that ECG-triggering is pivotal for calcium scanning with multi-slice spiral CT, especially in patients with low scores. If ECG-triggering is used, a good correlation to EBCT data is provided [3].

References