Coronary Calcium on Chest X-Ray

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Clinical Image

The presence of coronary calcium, assessed by Computed Tomography (CT) provides proof of coronary artery disease (CAD). It is one of the markers for predicting the risk of serious coronary artery disease. However, the presence of coronary calcium is seen rarely on chest X-ray. Coronary calcium is a reliable marker of CAD, which can be identified and quantified by Dual energy chest X-Rays. Sixty-one year old gentleman who is a diabetic and hypertensive, had effort dyspnea since six months. He underwent coronary angiogram from elsewhere, which showed severe triple vessel disease. He is referred to our center for Coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG). Chest X ray done as a routine investigation prior to the surgery showed Calcium along the coronaries. He underwent Coronary artery bypass grafting uneventfully from our center. The detection of coronary calcium on plain chest X-Ray can help in screening the patients for Coronary artery disease (CAD) (Figure 1).

Keywords: Coronary; Dyspnea; Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)

Figure 1: Chest X-Ray PA view: Arrows shows the calcified coronaries.