



**SASCI**

South African Society of  
Cardiovascular Intervention

17 September 2021

Dear SASCI Member,

**Discovery Health CAD CARE Initiative 2021**

There is an increasing appreciation of the value of adopting less invasive procedures to establish the extent and significance of CAD in middle and low risk patients without resorting to invasive coronary angiography. This needs to be undertaken in line with evidence-based medicine and be cost-effective and affordable. The use of these tests must be within acceptable boundaries of sensitivity and specificity. Ancillary tests include Stress Echo; Coronary CTA; nuclear and MRI imaging, each of which have added value to the assessment of such patients, although expertise and access to these tests are limited.

Work on CCTA has been extensively published recently and has a better detection rate than stress ECG without adding too much to cost. Discovery Health have invested heavily in funding CCTA's to support best practice and reduce invasive angiograms in patients with minimal disease. This is the crux of the CAD Care Program, and you can find out more on this program through the brochure attached.

SASCI supports avoiding unnecessary invasive angiograms in patients for whom a diagnosis remains unsure as this constitutes best practice. SASCI would encourage our members to consider participating in the CAD Care Program, but in line with competition law, the decision to participate is one that each practice must take.

SASCI continue to engage with funders to refine and develop innovative treatment programs. Please contact George Nel (SASCI Executive) at [sasci@sasci.co.za](mailto:sasci@sasci.co.za) if more information is needed.

Best regards

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President SASCI

Dr Tom Mabin

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**SASCI is a Special Interest Group of the SA Heart Association**

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