TITLE: Low Risk Variables Associated with Negative Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography

FACULTY MENTOR NAME, EMAIL PHONE NUMBER
Henry Young MD (hyoungii@ufl.edu) 352-265-5911
Lars Beattie MD (lars.beattie@ufl.edu) 352-265-5911

FACULTY MENTOR DEPARTMENT
Emergency Medicine

RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography (CCTA) is rapidly becoming a widely accepted technology to assess patients with a complaint of chest pain that is deemed low-risk by evaluating physicians. This test is becoming more prevalent, particularly in Emergency Departments, because of the ubiquity of CT scanners and the ease of performing the test. Still, CCTA is not entirely benign, and has associated radiation and contrast induced nephropathy (CIN) risks. It would be prudent to avoid exposing patients to these risks if the risks of the test exceed the risks of the patient experiencing an acute coronary syndrome (ACS). In this study we aim to find variables that define a population of such low CAD risk, that they do not need the test.

In this study we will review the medical records of all patients presenting to the emergency department over a 35 month period with chest pain determined to be low risk by the emergency room physician. We will assess for clinical variables associated with a CCTA with no significant stenosis. These variables will be used to identify a subset of patients presenting to the emergency department with acute chest pain that the risk of performing a CCTA exceeds the risk of that patient having acute coronary syndrome.

The role of the medical student would be reviewing the medical records, analyzing data, developing an abstract, and presentations.