

Protocol for Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) 3rd Class

(Updated 05/29/2024)

Use this guidance for:

- **CHD** (aka coronary artery disease CAD) **with 50% stenosis** or greater in any single coronary artery vessel
- **Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)**
- **Myocardial Infarction (MI)/heart attack** - either ST Elevation MI [STEMI] or Non-ST Elevation MI (NSTEMI))
- **Stent** (Heart stent/coronary stent/PTCA, Drug Eluting Stent [DES]);

Submit the following to the FAA for medical certificate consideration. The AME is required to DEFER:

Recovery period. There is NO mandatory recovery period per Public Law 114-190 5/2017, but the applicant should be released by the treating physician before obtaining the following evaluations.

1. **Hospital records.** Submit copies of:

- Admission history & physical (H&P);
- Operative report, if applicable (CABG, stent, or other procedure performed);
- Discharge summary from the **physician** (NOT the discharge instructions/paperwork given to the patient when leaving the hospital). Typically, the patient portal notes or after visit summary (AVS) that can be printed from the electronic medical record are **NOT** sufficient for pilot medical certification purposes.); and
- Coronary catheterization (heart cath) or ischemia work up (if performed), submit both the images on CD AND the printed report.

2. **Cardiology narrative.** A current evaluation by your cardiologist in the form of a detailed Clinical Progress Note which must include:

- A detailed summary of the history of any cardiac or co-morbid condition(s);
- Personal and family medical history including premature heart disease;
- Current medications, dosage, and side effects (if any);
- Clinical cardiac and general physical exam findings;
- Results of any testing performed;
- Diagnosis;
- Assessment and plan;
- Prognosis and Follow-up.

It must specifically include:

- If hospitalization or procedure, include a summary of events that lead to the cardiac intervention(s) or treatment;
- A statement regarding the individual's functional capacity and if they have been returned to their regular activity;

- Attempts to meet the guidelines for modifiable risk factors (such as lipid levels, aspirin use, beta-blocker use, and smoking cessation per the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association); and
- Prognosis for incapacitation.

3. **Labs** performed no more than 90 days before AME exam

- Hemoglobin A1c;
- Lipid profile to include total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, and triglycerides; and
- INR monthly readings if on warfarin (Jantoven)

4. **Exercise Stress Test (EST) with electrical tracings** performed **AFTER the event and within 90 days of the AME exam** which meets the [Exercise Stress Test \(EST\) Protocol Requirements](#). If a radionuclide stress (RS) or cardiac catheterization (cardiac angiogram) were performed, submit those reports.

Note: Do not submit imaging on CD unless requested by the FAA.

It is the responsibility of each applicant to provide the medical information required to determine his/her eligibility for airman medical certification.

To aid in the review process, it is critical that the applicant's **full name and date of birth** appear all correspondence and reports. Bring all information to your AME to upload into your FAA record.

Note: If Images (CDs) are required, all items should be mailed to one of the following:

Using regular mail (US Postal Service)	Using special mail (FedEx, UPS, etc.)
Federal Aviation Administration Civil Aerospace Medical Institute, Building 13 Aerospace Medical Certification Division, AAM-313 PO Box 25082 Oklahoma City, OK 73125-9914	Federal Aviation Administration Medical Appeals Section, AAM-313 Aerospace Medical Certification Division 6700 S MacArthur Boulevard, Room B-13 Oklahoma City, OK 73169

No consideration will be given for special issuance until ALL the required data has been received.