

# Protocol for Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 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])
- **Atherectomy, Brachytherapy, or Rotablation**

After the required recovery period, obtain the following and submit to the FAA.

Post-event testing should NOT be obtained until AFTER the recovery period. The AME is required to DEFER:

## Recovery period for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class

6 months	3 months
Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)	Myocardial infarction (MI)/Heart attack
Stent placed in <b>LEFT MAIN</b> coronary artery	Stent placed in any other coronary artery

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) print from an 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 the 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 led 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.  **Post-Event Radionuclide stress test (Stress RS) with imaging performed AFTER the event.** Submit the report, images (e.g., the “Rest/Stress multi-slice three-axis splash images”), and electrical tracings. **Note:** A Stress echo cannot take the place of the stress RS for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> class (full or limited). Due to poor image quality, Xeroxed or faxed images will not be accepted.
5.  **Civil Aerospace Medical Institute (CAMI) Limited Certificate Petition.** (Informs FAA if you will accept a lower-class medical certificate). It should be submitted regardless of the answer chosen.
6.  **Post-Event Heart Catheterization (Heart cath/cardiac angiography) with imaging.** Submit both the report AND actual images on CD.
- Required for 1st class and for full 2nd class
  - Not required for Limited Second Class
  - For new applicants, the post-event cath must have been performed within the last five (5) years.

**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 on all correspondence and reports. Mail all items (as ONE package) 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

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

If FAS Cardiology Consultant or FAS Cardiac Panel is required, allow additional time for the package contents to be verified for completeness prior to cardiologist review.