5 OCT FUNDAMENTALS

1. Elements of an OCT image view

   1. Normal vessel tissue view
     - EEL is the outer layer of media shown by the dotted red line.
     - External Elastic Lamina (EEL)
     - Internal Elastic Lamina (IEL)

2. Normal vessel tissue view

   - INTIMA
   - MEDIA
   - ADVENTITIA

   - EEL is the outer layer of media shown by the dotted red line.
   - External Elastic Lamina (EEL)
   - Internal Elastic Lamina (IEL)

3. Most common type of plaque description: OCT helps to identify different plaque morphologies.

   - CALCIFIC
     - Clear, Delineated Edges
     - “Islands” or “Rocks”

   - LIPIDIC
     - Dark
     - Homogeneous
     - Diffuse, “Shadowy” Edges
     - “Murky Water”

   - FIBROUS
     - Bright
     - Homogeneous

4. Attenuation: To describe images, the term “attenuation” is used in regards to light penetration, or simply “loss of light.”

   - A) High attenuation = high loss of light, dark image; can’t see deep tissue
   - B) Low attenuation = light penetrates deep; can see tissue

5. Algorithm for image interpretation: This quick guide can help to interpret OCT images.

   - CAN THE EEL AND ADVENTITIA BE VISUALIZED?
     - YES
     - NO

   - IS THE SIGNAL CHANGE IN THE LUMEN OR THE WALL?
     - LUMEN
       - High Attenuation
       - Low Attenuation

     - WALL
       - High Attenuation
       - Low Attenuation

   - Fibrous
   - Red Thromous
   - White Thrombus
   - Lipid
   - Calcium

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