

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Revolutionizing Cardiology

AIKEN, SC – Carolina Heart & Vascular Center in Aiken will be the first cardiovascular facility in the area to have the new 64-slice Computed Tomography Angiography (CTA). The practice has received its Certificate of Need (CON) from South Carolina regarding this groundbreaking cardiac machine.

“The CTA is revolutionizing cardiac care,” said Dr. David Cundey of Carolina Heart & Vascular Center. “It is the breakthrough physicians have been waiting for because it is less invasive, more patient friendly and enables cardiologists to see the presence of arterial stenosis (blockage of the artery) or other anomalies better, making it excellent for ruling out disease.”

The 64-slice CTA is a non-invasive, highly accurate, diagnostic imaging scanner that allows the physician to visualize the heart, aorta, lungs and coronary circulation. These images are remarkably detailed, of a high-resolution, three-dimensional and are obtained within seconds.

CT imaging can be used for detecting or eliminating coronary disease in non-symptomatic patients, evaluating patients with equivocal results from stress tests, and evaluating patients with risk factors such as elevated cholesterol and diabetes who are not symptomatic. It will also be useful for assessing cardiac function.

Other valuable applications for CTA are surgical clearance, follow-up of patients who have had Open Heart Surgery, assessing arteries to the kidneys in patients with high blood pressure, evaluation of carotid arteries for stroke prevention, evaluation of patients with abdominal aneurysms and vascular disease in the legs.

“CT imaging could dramatically alter the way some cardiac and vascular diseases are evaluated and treated,” remarked Dr. Cundey. “Up until now, invasive cardiac angiography has been the standard.”

Carolina Heart & Vascular Center’s CTA will be operational mid-September.

Carolina Heart & Vascular Center has chosen a CTA manufactured by Philips Medical Systems (one of the world's biggest electronics companies and medical equipment manufacturer for over 73 years).

Carolina Heart & Vascular Center is comprised of Aiken Cardiovascular Associates and Aiken Cardiovascular Surgical Associates. Founded in 2002, offices are located at 137 Miracle Drive in Aiken, SC and 154 Wren St. in Barnwell, SC. Dedicated to providing the best cardiovascular care in the CSRA, physicians at Carolina Heart & Vascular Center are members of the American Heart Association, American College of Surgeons, the International College of Surgeons, the Southern Thoracic Surgical Assoc., the Society of Thoracic Surgery, the American College of Cardiology, the American Society of Chest Physicians and South Carolina Vascular Surgery Assoc. Please visit us online at www.carolinahvc.com.

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