

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2006

Revolutionizing Cardiology in the CSRA

AIKEN, SC – Carolina Heart & Vascular Center in Aiken, the first cardiovascular facility in the area to have the new 64-slice Computed Tomography Angiography (CTA), will use the CTA on its first patients starting Tuesday, September 19, 2006.

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 patients with chest pain. It is also useful in evaluating patients with equivocal results from stress tests, and patients with risk factors such as elevated cholesterol and diabetes who are not symptomatic, as well as assess cardiac function.

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

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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