Western Reserve Heart Care Opens

by Ashley Pettigrew

Residents who travel to the Cleveland Clinic or University Hospitals now have a new place to go for heart condition treatments, Western Reserve Heart Care in Hudson.

This new state-of-the-art center offers treatment options for a variety of heart conditions including coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, heart arrhythmias and valvular disease, all of which the head physician, Dr. Emil Hayek, specializes in.

"Our center is comprehensive in what we offer," Hayek said. "I've always wanted to be able to offer patients everything from treatment options to simple things they can do to prevent heart disease."

Hayek, who also serves as the Medical Director of the Heart and Vascular Center at Akron General Medical Center, plans to serve people in the area, many of whom don't normally have a chance to see a cardiologist.

"Hudson is a vibrant growing community and there is no cardio care in the area," Hayek stated. "It seemed like a natural location not only because it's growing so quickly, but because community members are very interested in their own healthcare."

Hayek has been in private practice since 2002. Previously, Hayek attended Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he also completed his residency. He finished his cardiology fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and in addition to this, he is an assistant professor of medicine at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine.

Using his background and knowledge, Hayek hired a full-time staff of eight at the new center in Hudson. Together, the center offers a variety of techniques for treating heart conditions through cardiac stress testing, echocardiography, vascular ultrasound, and arrhythmia monitoring. The center has new equipment to provide patients with the most up-to-date options.

"I really wanted this center to have everything when it came to evaluating heart conditions so that coming in for an assessment wouldn't mean a patient would have to go to another facility to have basic tests performed," Hayek said.

Because of this philosophy, Western Reserve Heart Care features brand-new equipment for evaluating heart conditions. According to Hayek, the center is one of the first in the area to offer a common test known as nuclear stress testing. Nuclear stress testing shows if the heart receives enough blood from its own activities to work harder safely. It also allows doctors to determine how much exercise is right for certain patients.

Dr. Emil Hayek, founder of Western Reserve Heart Care.

The center also has devices similar to pagers for examining heart palpitations. The device measures a patient's heartbeats over 24 hours. Hayek then uses this to determine what may cause a patient's heart to race or skip a beat.

In addition to nuclear stress testing, the facility will also offer counseling on diet, nutrition and exercise, as well as cholesterol screenings and heart risk assessments as part of an attempt to prevent heart disease, while at the same time treating existing conditions. However, no surgeries will be performed at the center.

Hayek believes that the center is really unique because of the personal treatment it offers. "I really wanted tests to become part of the consultation," Hayek said. "Patients can come in and have the test performed right away so we can go over the results together. I don't want patients leaving with more questions than they began with."

The facility is located at 1335 Corporate Dr. in Hudson. For more information, visit westernreserveheartcare.com or call 330-342-0806.

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