

## **NEWS** from **Fisher-Titus Medical Center**

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From Allyson Lane, Public Relations Specialist (419) 660-2696

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### **Fisher-Titus announces new heart and vascular capabilities**

An important milestone was reached this week in the Fisher-Titus Heart & Vascular Center expanding the level of cardiac care available for area patients, according to Brent W. Burkey, MD, Fisher-Titus president.

“For the first time since the Snyder/White Heart & Vascular Center opened in 2008, our patients can have interventional heart catheterizations, including balloon angioplasty and stent placement at Fisher-Titus,” Dr. Burkey said. “We are very pleased to introduce this level of care to our patients so they can stay close to home instead of being referred to another facility for this type of care.”

Fisher-Titus is now certified by the Ohio Department of Health as a Level II adult cardiac catheterization laboratory allowing for diagnostic and interventional procedures.

Prior to the certification, only diagnostic catheterizations could be performed at Fisher-Titus, Dr. Burkey explained. If a condition was found during a diagnostic procedure requiring intervention, the patient would be transferred to another facility for treatment. With the new Level II certification, complications of heart disease can be addressed onsite with coronary balloon angioplasty and stenting on an emergency or elective basis.

“We are very pleased that our highly trained intervention cardiologists, Dr. Gabby Aoun and Dr. Juan Weksler, are utilizing our high-tech heart and vascular procedure labs to perform diagnostic and interventional cardiac catheterizations,” Dr. Burkey added.

The new capabilities allow for the immediate treatment of STEMI. STEMI is a common name for ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction which is a type of heart attack. STEMI is caused by a prolonged period of blocked blood supply affecting a large area of the heart. STEMI has a substantial risk of death and disability and calls for a quick response.

Drs. Aoun and Weksler joined Fisher-Titus in November as the first Fisher-Titus employed cardiologists since the Heart & Vascular Center opened in 2008. Prior to that, physicians were provided through various partnerships with other health care organizations.

### ***About Fisher-Titus Heart & Vascular***

*The Fisher-Titus Heart & Vascular practice has offices in the Snyder/White Heart & Vascular Center within Fisher-Titus Medical Center. This is the first time since the Center opened in 2008 that physicians working in the Center are employed by Fisher-Titus. For appointments, call 419-660-4707.*

**Gaby B. Aoun, MD, FSCAI, interventional cardiologist**

*Dr. Gaby Aoun comes to Fisher-Titus after practicing interventional cardiology at Clinton Memorial Hospital in Wilmington, Ohio. Aoun earned his Interventional Cardiology fellowship at St. Vincent Hospital, University of Massachusetts in 2011. He has been a practicing cardiologist since 2001.*

**Juan E. Weksler, MD, FACC, FSCAI, interventional cardiologist**

*Dr. Juan Weksler has been a practicing cardiologist since 2005. He joins the Fisher-Titus Heart & Vascular team from Baptist Health Corbin in Corbin, Kentucky. Prior to that he was Director of Cardiovascular Services and Director of Cardiac Rehabilitation at Avista Adventist Hospital in Louisville, Colorado. Dr. Weksler is fellowship trained in Interventional Cardiology and Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions.*

**Chris Colvin, RN, registered nurse**

*A lifelong resident of Norwalk, Chris Colvin has been a licensed registered nurse for more than 10 years. Chris cared for patients in the University Hospitals Elyria Medical Center ER before joining the Fisher-Titus Emergency Department team in 2009. He became a member of the Snyder/White Heart & Vascular Center team in 2015. Chris has served in the U.S. Army and Air Force. He ended his military career with the Army National Guard.*

**On-site preventive, diagnostic and interventional services, include:**

- *Emergency and elective angioplasty and stenting*
- *Diagnostic heart catheterization*
- *Echocardiogram*
- *Electrocardiogram (EKG)*
- *Holter monitoring*
- *Pacemaker/defibrillator implantation and management*
- *Stress testing*
- *Embolic protection*
- *Peripheral vascular evaluation and management*
- *Diagnostic angiogram*
- *Treatment of varicose veins/vein ablation*
- *Cardiac rehabilitation*
- *Anticoagulation and thrombosis management clinic*

**About the Snyder/White Heart & Vascular Center**

*The Snyder/White Heart & Vascular Center opened in 2008 offering patients a one-stop location for heart and vascular needs. The facility includes two state-of-the-art cardiovascular labs, an 11-bay pre-and post-operative area, space for non-invasive cardiac diagnostics including a stress lab, echo lab, pacemaker/device clinics, EKG and Holter monitoring, a cardiac rehabilitation gym, and office space for physicians.*

*The center was named in recognition of a philanthropic gift toward the construction of the facility from Dudley A. White Jr. and Alice White Rau. It honors their parents Dudley A. and Alice Snyder White and*

*their grandparents Reginald C. and Alice Mack Snyder. The Snyder / White family has long history in the community, having owned and operated the Norwalk Reflector since 1925.*

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