



<https://Physicians.TheMedicalCenter.org>

Heart Disease is the #1 killer of women and men.

Educate your patients on the signs of a heart attack:

- Discomfort, pain, heaviness, squeezing, fullness or tightness in your chest
- Discomfort or pain in your jaw, neck, arms or back
- Difficulty breathing
- Nausea and vomiting
- Cold sweats and pale skin
- Lightheadedness or passing out
- Severe weakness

The Medical Center Receives Chest Pain Center Accreditation with PCI

In March, The Medical Center at Bowling Green received full Cycle III accreditation with PCI from the Accreditation Review Committee of the Society for Chest Pain Centers. The Medical Center is the only hospital in Southcentral Kentucky accredited with PCI, or percutaneous coronary intervention, which is the use of cardiac catheterization to treat the narrowed coronary arteries of the heart.

“While chest pain accreditation from the Society of Chest Pain Centers demonstrates the rigorous standards we meet in our treatment plan for heart attack patients, accreditation with PCI is of even greater value to our patients and their families,” said Dr. Gary Howerton, Medical Director of The Medical Center Chest Pain Center and Emergency Department. “PCI allows our interventional cardiologists to go directly to the source of a blockage, thus preserving heart muscle and potentially reducing mortality.”

The goal of the Society of Chest Pain Centers is to significantly reduce the mortality rate of heart attack patients by teaching the public to recognize and react to the early symptoms of a possible heart attack, reduce the time that it takes to receive treatment, and increase the accuracy and effectiveness of treatment. The Chest Pain Center at The Medical Center has demonstrated its expertise and commitment to quality patient care by meeting or exceeding a wide set of stringent criteria and completing on-site evaluations by a review team from the Society of Chest Pain Centers.



Gary Howerton, M.D.



Important Information for a Physician Office

If a patient exhibits signs of a heart attack while in your physician office, call 911 immediately. Calling 911 allows emergency medical services to begin assessment and treatment of the patient while in route to the hospital. Do not direct the patient to drive to The Medical Center for admission.

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