
Advanced Heart Failure Center Provides Comprehensive Care to Improve Treatment and Quality of Life

Scott & White, Temple, TX

Keywords: *care coordination, care teams, care management, chronic care, congestive heart failure, disease management, hospital readmissions, patient support, preventive care, Scott & White, Texas, treatment, value*

Congestive heart failure (CHF) affects five million Americans and that number is projected to increase. There are many causes of CHF, which all result in the heart not being able to pump sufficient blood to meet the metabolic needs of the body. The occurrence of CHF increases with age, but it can also affect young individuals. Because there are now so many helpful treatments for patients with CHF, it is important for patients to have a comprehensive evaluation and treatment plan established. Scott & White's Advanced Heart Failure Center makes use of the most up-to-date medical treatments, implantable heart-assist devices and even heart transplantation surgery when needed. The Advanced Heart Failure Center serves an unmet need in Scott & White's region.

Scott & White Memorial Hospital's Advanced Heart Failure Center Opens Spring 2010

Scott & White Healthcare, headquartered in Temple, TX, and a regional multi-specialty healthcare system in Central Texas, will open a comprehensive heart failure center within its Top 100* ranked Heart and Vascular Institute. (*2009 Thomson Reuters).

"Although we've been taking care of and treating all levels of heart failure patients in our Cardiovascular Center, we want people to know that our Advanced Heart Failure clinic will not only make use of the most up-to-date medical treatments, but will now make use of all implantable heart-assist devices and even heart transplantation surgery when needed," said Robert C. Scott III, MD, PhD, F.A.C.C., senior staff cardiologist at Scott & White Clinic & Hospital, and assistant professor of medicine, Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine.

Congestive heart failure (CHF) affects five million Americans and that number is projected to increase. There are many causes of CHF, which all result in the heart not being able to pump sufficient blood to meet the metabolic needs of the body. The occurrence of CHF increases with age, but it can also affect young individuals. Because there are now so many helpful treatments for patients with CHF, it is important for patients to have a comprehensive evaluation and treatment plan established. The Advanced Heart Failure Center will serve an unmet need in the region and will be developed into a major referral center for hospitals in the area. It will serve the increased number of people including retirees who live in the region or are planning to move to Texas in the years ahead.

The Center's goal is to offer patients better treatment options and improve their quality of life. Objectives include enhanced continuity of care (treatment); fewer hospital admissions (care management); and improved length and quality of life for patients with heart failure

(care management). Prevention and acute care programs include everything from educational seminars, dietary recommendations and medication adjustments, to special pacemakers, mechanical assist pumps and cardiac transplantation. Recruitment of the clinical leadership is complete and infrastructure development is underway.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Katherine Voss

Media Relations Manager

Scott & White

2401 S. 31st St.

Temple, TX 76508

tel. 254-724-4097

kvoss@swmail.sw.org

www.sw.org