



Vitruvian Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MEDIA

INFORMATION

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Hamilton Medical Center offers cardiac MRIs to help with treatment plans

DALTON, Ga. (April 3, 2026) – Hamilton Medical Center (HMC) now offers cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)s to patients as needed.

Cardiac MRI offers an advanced approach to heart imaging without the use of radiation or iodinated contrast. The exam produces highly detailed images of the heart, enabling providers to accurately assess conditions such as heart failure, congenital heart disease and myocardial scarring.

Results from a cardiac MRI help guide treatment decisions, including medication management, surgical planning and other interventions. The scan can identify scarring and muscle damage while also evaluating blood flow and pumping ability.

“This makes it particularly useful for diagnosing conditions like cardiomyopathies, valvular heart disease, infiltrative disease and myocarditis,” said Ateet Patel, MBA, MD, FACC, Vitruvian Health Heart & Vascular chief of Cardiology. “The superior soft tissue contrast of MRI helps in identifying subtle differences that may not be visible with other imaging methods like CT [computed tomography] scans or echocardiograms.”

A cardiac MRI can take 60 to 90 minutes. It is widely considered safe for most patients. A non-iodinated contrast is used for cardiac MRI that highlights blood flow and tissue changes. This vital information will assist providers in providing critical insight for personalized patient care.

HMC uses the 1.5T MAGNETOM Espree by Siemens Healthineers USA, which has a larger opening than standard MRI units. The Espree provides patient comfort, high-quality images and diagnostic confidence for all types of patients.

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Photos:

Ateet Patel, MD
1.5T MAGNETOM Espree

About Hamilton Medical Center

The flagship affiliate for Vitruvian Health's Northwest Georgia region, Hamilton Medical Center (HMC) is a 255-bed regional acute-care hospital that offers major medical, surgical and diagnostic services, including accredited stroke and chest pain centers. Advanced technology and wellness are two significant areas of focus for HMC. Services include the freestanding Hamilton Ambulatory Surgery Center, Hamilton Diagnostics Center, and Bradley Wellness Center, as well as a Level II trauma center, Peoples Cancer Institute, Heart & Vascular program (including open heart surgery), Hamilton Spine Health and Sport, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and more.

About Vitruvian Health – Heart & Vascular

Vitruvian Health – Heart & Vascular is a comprehensive and fully integrated system that supports patients at every stage of their heart health journey – from prevention and early diagnosis to intervention, rehabilitation and long-term follow-up.

A key strength of the program is collaboration. Cardiovascular care is never one-size-fits-all, and it works best when specialists work together. Multiple teams including interventional cardiology, structural heart, advanced imaging, vascular care, electrophysiology, cardiac surgery, and cardiac rehabilitation collaborate closely to ensure each patient receives coordinated, personalized care. The program also invests in leading-edge technology, including advanced imaging capabilities such as one-beat electron beam CT (EBCT), and the most modern ablation therapies and clinical trials, which allow for precise and efficient cardiac assessment.

Hamilton Medical Center recently received Top Heart Hospital designation through the American College of Cardiology, and regional Level I Emergency Cardiac Care Center designation through the Georgia Department of Public Health.

About Vitruvian Health

Vitruvian Health, formerly Hamilton Health Care System, is a not-for-profit, fully integrated health system serving the Northwest Georgia and Southeast Tennessee regions. Vitruvian includes Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton, Ga., and Bradley Medical Center in Cleveland, Tenn., affiliated physician practices, walk-in care centers, retirement and skilled nursing centers, a diagnostic center, a cancer institute, an institute for children with developmental delays, and more. Known for its advanced care and personalized service, Vitruvian Health offers innovative treatment options in state-of-the-art facilities while maintaining a compassionate, friendly and tranquil healing environment.

The Vitruvian name draws from the organization's recognizable da Vinci-inspired Vitruvian Man icon, which has been a prominent part of Hamilton's logo since 1976. Da Vinci's Vitruvian Man represents

harmony, balance, and the interconnectedness of all aspects of health, perfectly aligning with Hamilton's integrated system of care.