



Vitruvian Health

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INFORMATION

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Driving better, faster cardiac care

DALTON, Ga. (September 4, 2025) – Patients in Northwest Georgia and Southeast Tennessee are accessing care once found only in larger metro areas — thanks to Vitruvian Health’s coordinated system of hospitals, specialists and technology.

With a network encompassing Hamilton Medical Center in Dalton, Ga., Bradley Medical Center in Cleveland, Tenn., and more than 70 integrated care access points, patients are experiencing the difference.

Ateet Patel, MD, chief of the Heart & Vascular program at Vitruvian Health, said his experience at the mid-sized hospital system is one of deep collaboration that drives better, faster care. The system, he said, draws top professionals, placing specialists in an environment where they are equipped to do their best work without unnecessarily limiting their scope.

“In cardiology, for example, we give our cardiologists and surgeons the opportunity to practice at the highest level of their training,” Patel said. “Rather than being placed in a position to practice only general cardiology in a limited scope, the scale of the department allows them to focus on their specialties and subspecialties.”

Coordinated care

When patients look for a doctor, they often consider factors like training, personality and communication skills. But another critical factor is the hospital support system, according to Patel.

When a patient needs care from many specialists, communication among providers can get tricky. Vitruvian Health’s enhanced coordinated care that allows its large, integrated staff of advanced practitioners to communicate and work seamlessly within the same system is a big reason for its success, and it builds trust with patients, he said.

“I think that’s a testament to the global vision of Vitruvian Health,” Patel said. “We work very hard, from the executive team down, to drive this success and deliver the best for our

patients.”

Seamless communication means providers can review patient images from other providers and departments in real time, similar to having a think tank of experts at one’s fingertips.

“I can call one of my Bradley Medical Center colleagues and say, ‘Hey, I need you to look at these pictures,’” Patel said. “They can provide feedback. This comes in extremely handy, especially when discussing a really complex patient’s care.”

The large number of specialists under one roof also gives patients the ability to visit several physicians in one trip. The Heart & Vascular program, for example, has a dedicated clinic allowing patients to come in for an appointment with a doctor or advanced practice provider while also seeing a valve coordinator or cardiac surgeon at the same visit and location.

“It saves time and alleviates stress when patients can condense what might be four or five appointments to a single visit,” Patel said. “This type of coordinated care results in faster treatments.”

One time, for example, a patient experiencing shortness of breath went from diagnosis to treatment, including transcatheter aortic valve replacement, within 10 days. In an uncoordinated system, Patel said, that process would typically take four to six weeks.

As part of an integrated system, providers are reducing disruptions to patients’ lives by extending care into new areas and bringing advanced services and technologies directly to them.

Advanced technology

Vitruvian Health’s Heart & Vascular program showcases the system’s advanced technology and procedures. It was the first in the region to offer pulsed field ablation, a treatment that uses electrical pulses to correct irregular heart rhythms. The department also adopted key innovations early, including cardiac resynchronization, advanced blood clot therapies, and cardiac CT scans.

“When you compare us to larger institutions in places like Atlanta, I think I can say today that there’s nothing that we don’t have on the shelf right now,” Patel said.

Bringing a high grade of care and services to Northwest Georgia and Southeast Tennessee ultimately widens the opportunity for more successful outcomes. And with greater convenience, patients are less likely to put off treatment.

“I’m extremely proud to be part of an organization that not only strives to be a system of excellence, but has the talent, resources and vision to make it a reality,” said Patel.

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Photo:

Ateet Patel, MD

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.

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, Peeples Cancer Institute, Heart & Vascular program (including open heart surgery), Hamilton Spine Health and Sport, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and more.

About Bradley Medical Center

Bradley Medical Center (BMC), an affiliate of Vitruvian Health Care System, is a not-for-profit hospital dedicated to providing quality, innovative healthcare to the Cleveland community and surrounding areas through comprehensive medical services and an experienced team of physicians and caregivers. BMC is actively involved in promoting community-wide health and wellness, with locations at the main acute care hospital and the Westside Campus, totaling 351 licensed beds. BMC is accredited by The Joint Commission, has an accredited Chest Pain Center as recognized by the American College of Cardiology, and is an accredited Joint Commission Acute Stroke Ready hospital. The Orthopedic Joint Center has received the Gold Seal of Approval with Certificates of Distinction Accreditation from The Joint Commission for its Total Knee & Total Hip Orthopedic Program and Blue Cross Blue Shield Distinction for Total Joint and Hip. The hospital offers a full range of healthcare services, including a 7,000-square-foot, 24-hour emergency care unit at the main hospital.