

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **BOTHWELL INSTALLS NEW 64-SLICE CT SCANNER** *New CT Does Studies Four Times Faster and With Less Radiation*

SEDALIA — [Bothwell Regional Health Center](#) recently installed a new 64-slice computerized tomography (CT) system that will capture more detailed images at a rate four times faster than the existing CT scanner.

The powerful, cutting-edge CT technology enables the health center's radiology technologists to perform quick, painless exams that provide physicians with the detailed images they need for more accurate diagnoses. The new CT captures these images while exposing patients to lower, safer doses of radiation. The [Somatom Sensation 64](#) from Siemens Medical Solutions is billed as the world's fastest and most advanced 64-slice CT system.

"The new CT allows us to do much quicker scans," said Chief Radiologist [Dr. Robert Farkas](#). "Motion will distort the images you get with a CT scan, so when a patient is unable to lay still because of trauma or age, the images we get can be of limited value. With the increased speed of obtaining images on the new scanner, patient movement has become much less of an issue."

The 64-slice CT also acquires a volume of data rather than just an individual slice. Because the images obtained are more three-dimensional, radiologists can view the studies at different angles to get a more accurate portrayal of condition or injury.

"In essence, when we get done with the scan, we can reconstruct it in a number of different ways," Dr. Farkas said. "We can see detail at a much smaller level. ... The bottom line is we can do more, and we can do it faster, and with less radiation to the patient."

The addition of a 64-slice CT complements Bothwell



Specialists with Siemens Medical Solutions install the new 64-slice computerized tomography (CT) scanner at Bothwell Regional Health Center.

Regional Health Center's 2008 renovation of the cardiac catheterization lab for expanded cardiovascular diagnostic and treatment services.

"The 64-slice CT can literally capture [three-dimensional images](#) of the beating heart," said Chief CT Technologist Linda Keethler. "We'll be better able to pinpoint possible heart problems at earlier stages, and we'll be able to do certain cardiac studies that we weren't able to do as well before, such as calcium scoring and coronary CTAs (computerized tomography angiogram)."

Calcium scoring gauges the level of calcium in coronary arteries and provides a score related to the likelihood of developing cardiac disease. Coronary CTA is a heart-imaging study of the arteries that checks for the presence of plaque buildup and blockages.

Bothwell's new 64-slice CT also has a wider opening to accommodate bariatric patients since Bothwell is a Center of Excellence for Bariatric Surgery. The project represents a \$1.3 million investment.

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Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 180-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopaedic, endovascular/cardiac, women's health, and therapy services. For more information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services, visit the website at [www.brhc.org](http://www.brhc.org).