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# ASANTE® News

ASANTE ASHLAND COMMUNITY HOSPITAL | ASANTE PHYSICIAN PARTNERS | ASANTE ROGUE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER | ASANTE THREE RIVERS MEDICAL CENTER

## Asante Cardiologist and Patient Interviewed on JPR

Chris Honore' of Ashland had been for a swim and was eating an apple as he drove to meet his wife at her downtown bookstore. By the time he arrived, both of his arms were tingling and felt strange.

"She took a look at me and said, 'OK, we're going to emergency,'" Chris said in [an interview earlier this month](#) on Jefferson Public Radio.



Dr. Kent Dauterman, an interventional cardiologist with Southern Oregon Cardiology, joined Chris in the 15-minute interview to explain the role of Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center as a regional receiving center for "STEMI" heart attacks. Those are the more severe of two types of heart attacks, and the variety that Chris suffered about two years ago.

Asante Rogue Regional received a Mission: Lifeline® Receiving Center-Silver Plus Level Recognition Award earlier this summer from the American Heart Association. The award recognized a full year of achieving the overall compliance scores of the "Mission: Lifeline" criteria, along with definitive treatment in less than two hours for at least 75 percent of incoming STEMI patients.

A STEMI heart attack is recognized by the characteristic elevation it triggers in what is

called the "ST segment" of an electrocardiogram.

"That's the big heart attack, where one is having actual, ongoing damage to the heart muscle because of complete blockage of a coronary artery," Dr. Dauterman said in the JPR interview. "These arteries are the fuel lines to the heart."

Chris had gone first to Asante Ashland Community Hospital – a STEMI "referral center" hospital – where an electrocardiogram revealed the telltale pattern of a STEMI heart attack. He was then taken by ambulance directly to the cardiac catheterization laboratory at Asante Rogue Regional – which Dr. Dauterman said receives about 170 to 175 such patients each year.

"Time is muscle – the sooner you get the artery open, the sooner you reestablish blood flow to that heart muscle," he said in the interview. "With Chris, from time he showed up at Rogue Regional Medical Center until we had the balloon inflated in his artery, it was 16 minutes."

The coronary artery, which had been 99 percent blocked, was reopened. Chris spent a total of four days in the hospital, but is now fully recovered.

"My level of activity is exactly what it was before – I'm still eating apples and swimming," he said in ***(read more, next page)***

the radio interview. "I don't feel any different.

"My wife reminds me, and I totally agree, if you're going to have a heart attack there could not be a better place to have it happen than in this area, with staff (at Asante) and doctors like Dr. Dauterman. It was just amazing."

Asante News is published every Tuesday. Deadline for submission of articles is every Friday. Send via e-mail to [asantenews@asante.org](mailto:asantenews@asante.org).

**Question or suggestions:** Call Communications and Marketing at (541) 789-3510 or extension 13510.