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## Asante Ashland Casts a Sharper CT Image

Imaging technology will take a leap forward at Asante Ashland Community Hospital next month with the arrival of a new computed tomography scanner. The advanced, 128-slice CT scanner will provide sharper images with lower radiation dosing than standard CT machines.



The new GE EVO model replaces the hospital's 16-slice scanner, which has been in use since 2004. Computed tomography uses a combination of X-ray and computer technology to generate three-dimensional views inside the body – including organs, blood vessels, bones and spine. The more image “slices” generated, the faster the scan and the more detailed the 3D rendering.

The new scanner's technology can limit X-ray doses by as much as 82 percent, significantly lowering the risk of radiation exposure while also

complying with tighter federal guidelines to take effect next year.

Once installed, the scanner will allow Asante Ashland to broaden its services from standard CT tests, such as cardiac and lung screenings, to more specialized uses including CT fluoroscopy for minimally invasive procedures. The technology is especially useful for orthopedic imaging because it allows surgeons to “see around” implanted devices that would otherwise block a full anatomical view.

The hospital has spent the past year preparing to bring the new technology to Ashland. Imaging Director Rob Hibner worked with clinical specialists, including radiologist and Medical Director Seth Hofstetter, MD, to select a scanner that would offer the broadest capabilities with the lowest dose of radiation.

“It is an exciting time for Asante Ashland Community Hospital to be able to offer state-of-the-art imaging for our community and physicians,” Dr. Hofstetter said. “The ability to obtain outstanding studies combined with the low-dose radiation is ideal for offering the best care to our patients.”

The scanner will be housed on the main floor, next to the Emergency Department. During the two-week installation, the hospital will use a mobile CT unit parked near the ED entrance. The new scanner is expected to go live the first week of January.

“This technology not only provides our patients with a safer, more accurate test, but they can get this state-of-the-art service right here in their community hospital,” said Sheila Clough, the hospital's CEO.

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).  
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