



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Mandy Rogers
Williamson Medical Center
615.435.5357



Williamson Medical Center registered ultrasonographer Mylania Toone, A.R.D.M.S., scans a patient's carotid artery, a procedure that shows buildup of plaque — the leading cause of stroke.

Williamson Medical Center offers screenings for stroke, other vascular diseases

FRANKLIN, Tenn. – An estimated 20 to 30 million Americans are at risk for vascular diseases such as stroke, peripheral arterial disease, carotid artery disease and aortic aneurysms. All are potentially life-threatening conditions if left untreated.

You can take control of your health and discover if you are at risk for these health issues by attending Williamson Medical Center's LiveWell vascular screening Saturday, Sept. 17, at Williamson Medical Center Outpatient Imaging, 4601 Carothers Parkway.

To schedule an appointment, call 615.435.6777.

“Vascular disease frequently shows no symptoms until a catastrophic event — such as a stroke or aneurysm rupture — occurs,” says WMC family practice physician Art Williams, D.O. “However, preventive screening allows for early detection, and treatment is effective in most cases.”

Williamson Medical Center uses the latest technology in non-invasive ultrasound testing to quickly and accurately determine if you are at risk for vascular disease. The LiveWell vascular screenings include:

- A **stroke/carotid artery screening**, which shows buildup of plaque in the carotid arteries—the leading cause of stroke. Stroke is the third-leading cause of death in America and one of the leading causes of catastrophic disability in adults.
- An **abdominal aortic artery screening**, which scans for balloon-like bulges in the body's main artery. More than 15,000 people die each year in the U.S. from rupture of an aortic aneurysm. It is estimated that more than one million people are living undiagnosed with this condition, and at least 95 percent of these can be successfully treated if detected prior to rupture.
- A **peripheral arterial disease screening**, which measures blood flow in an artery to indicate the presence of a blockage. Peripheral arterial disease affects about 8 million Americans, and those with the disease have a five-times-higher risk of heart attack or stroke.

Cost of the package is \$130 and includes a free osteoporosis screening, which can detect low bone density before a fracture occurs. Approximately 44 million Americans have osteoporosis or low bone mass.

A variety of lab work also will be available at the screening. Additional tests include: a lipid panel and glucose test, which determines if you are at risk for developing heart disease and screens for diabetes; a PSA test, which detects prostate cancer before symptoms appear; a thyroid stimulating hormone test, which points to an overactive or underactive thyroid; screenings for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema and vitamin D deficiency; and a high-sensitivity C-reactive protein test, which screens for artery inflammation, a risk factor for cardiovascular disease.

Williamson Medical Center, a 185-bed hospital fully accredited by The Joint Commission, provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient care including emergency services, with credentialed physicians in 53 specialties and sub-specialties. The community-focused hospital offers a wide range of wellness services, screenings and classes. For more information about Williamson Medical Center, visit www.williamsonmedicalcenter.org.

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