



## Cox Monett

### upgrades radiology equipment

Patients are experiencing improved diagnostics and less wait times in the [Cox Monett Radiology](#) department thanks to an upgrade in equipment. An ultrasound machine, computer tomography scanner and mammography machine were all recently updated to better serve patients. Mobile MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) is also available.

The dedicated radiology team at Cox Monett performs routine radiology services as well as subspecialties. In the coming months, they will be able to electronically transfer heart ultrasounds to a cardiologist in Springfield for reading the same day, something they were not able to do before the upgrade.

## Taking patient care “to heart” at Cox North

CoxHealth is pleased to offer convenient, accessible, technologically advanced heart health care at the new Cox North Heart Center at 1423 N. Jefferson. Developed in response to the need for additional cardiovascular services in north Springfield, the Cox North Heart Center provides cardiac rehabilitation, stress testing, nuclear medicine, EKG and echocardiology all on the J-100 floor of Cox North.

Also offering cardiac expertise at the Cox North Heart Center is Dr. H. Roy Schwartz, a board-certified cardiologist who specializes in general cardiology, vascular medicine and cardiovascular disease prevention. Dr. Schwartz joined CoxHealth in September 2001.

“The center is about meeting and exceeding the needs of our patients,” says Vickie Shuler,

director of Cardiovascular Services at CoxHealth. “With the exception of surgery and acute care, the Cox North Heart Center offers the same level of services as Cox South.”

An open house was held for the center in mid-November and patient volume has already exceeded hospital expectations. Future plans for the center include adding a full-service lipid clinic where family physicians, nurse practitioners and registered dietitians work together to help individuals lower or raise their [cholesterol](#) numbers in an effort to reduce their risk of having a [heart attack](#) or a [stroke](#).

For more information on the Cox North Heart Center, call 269-8382. Also see the HealthSense calendar on pages 6-8 for heart month activities, classes and programs at CoxHealth.



Bulking up your diet with beans and peas can lower your risk of heart disease. A study found people who ate legumes at least four times a week had a 22 percent lower risk of coronary heart disease.

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## CoaguChek utilized at Oxford HealthCare



Clients of [Oxford HealthCare](#) who require frequent checks of their blood clotting abilities are now enjoying the benefits of CoaguChek. Instead of needle blood draws from a vein, the palm-sized CoaguChek machine uses one drop of blood obtained from a single finger stick with a lancet. The blood is applied to a test strip, fed into the machine and blood clotting information is instantly relayed to the caregiver. Results are 99.6 percent accurate.

“Not only do patients benefit from the testing process, the real-time results eliminates specimen transports and wait times for lab testing, which means medication adjustments can be made sooner,” says Kyle Terrell, BSN, Oxford In-Home Services quality improvement manager.

CoaguChek technology was first introduced at Oxford in February 2002,

and due to the tremendous response from patients and physicians, 17 machines are now utilized by the home health agency. Plans are also under way to add more machines in the future.

For more information about CoaguChek or the services offered at Oxford HealthCare call 883-7500 or 1-800-749-6555. In Joplin, call 782-0111 or 1-800-287-8187.