

St. Luke's is FIRST and MOST Experienced Chest Pain Center in Region

St. Luke's Hospital is the first hospital in the region to earn Chest Pain Center accreditation by the prestigious Society of Chest Pain Centers, an international professional organization focused on improving care for patients with acute coronary syndromes and other related conditions.



The three-year accreditation follows the Society's rigorous review of St. Luke's clinical protocols and the patient care it provides chest pain patients at both its Bethlehem and Allentown campuses. Among the criteria considered were St. Luke's demonstrated expertise and commitment to:

- Assessing, diagnosing and treating patients quickly
- Continually seeking to improve processes and procedures
- Having a functional design that promotes optimal patient care
- Supporting community outreach programs that educate the public to promptly seek medical care if they display symptoms of a possible heart attack

"We are gratified that the Society of Chest Pain Centers has recognized St. Luke's commitment to providing area patients with timely, expert evaluation and treatment of chest pain-related symptoms," says Melinda Shoemaker, RN, LNC, director, St. Luke's Chest Pain Center Program. "This accreditation validates what we know to be true – St. Luke's and our EMS community have the highest quality staff providing excellent, leading edge care to our patients and we are continually monitoring our processes to improve."

"The St. Luke's Chest Pain Center follows a scientific, guideline driven, systematic approach to patient management that allows physicians to streamline treatment time during the critical stages of a heart attack, when treatments are most effective and to better monitor patients when it is not clear if they are having a coronary event," says Marcus Averbach, MD, medical director, St. Luke's Chest Pain Center Program. "Such observation helps ensure that a patient is neither sent home too early nor needlessly admitted."

St. Luke's Hospital evaluates more than 5,000 patients with chest pain every year at its hospital locations in Bethlehem and Allentown. Both campuses offer a full-service emergency department, state-of-the-art radiology services, including the region's only accredited cardiac MRI program, 24-hour-a-day, 7-days-a-week cardiac catheterization lab services and a nationally recognized heart surgery program.



For more information about the St. Luke's Chest Pain Center, call 1-877-610-6161 or visit www.slhn.org.

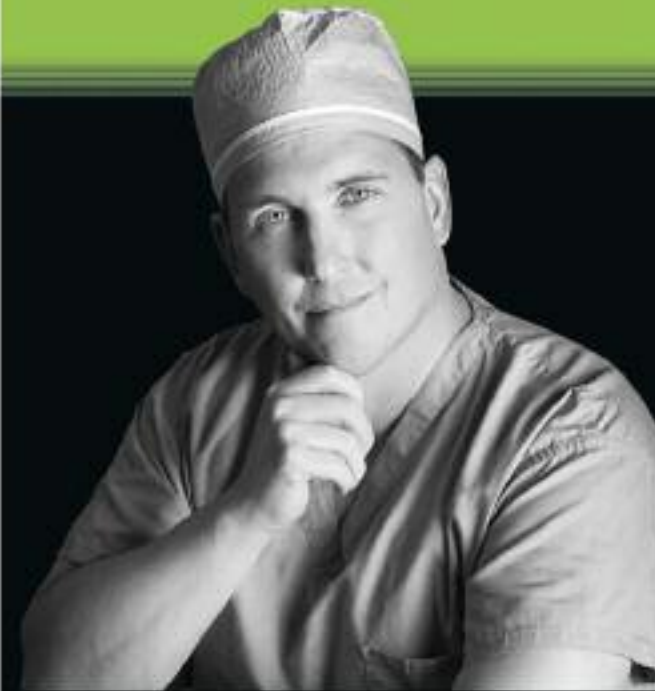
Raymond Durkin, MD

Named Chief of Cardiology for St. Luke's Hospital & Health Network

Raymond A. Durkin, MD, FACC, one of the region's foremost interventional cardiologists has been appointed Chief of Cardiology for St. Luke's Hospital & Health Network.

"We are extremely pleased to have someone of Dr. Durkin's clinical expertise and experience in this leadership role," says Jeffrey Jahre, MD, senior vice president of Medical and Academic Affairs. "Dr. Durkin is not only an excellent interventionalist, he has a very strong leadership background and is highly respected in the Greater Lehigh Valley."

Dr. Durkin has earned board certification in cardiovascular diseases and interventional cardiology, as well as internal medicine.



"I look forward to working with St. Luke's outstanding team of cardiologists. Working together with the cardiologists, as well as all the other excellent physicians and staff at St. Luke's, I am confident we will continue to keep St. Luke's on the leading-edge of advances in cardiac medicine."

— Raymond Durkin, MD



Weight NO MORE

Extreme or morbid obesity affects more than eight million Americans and is growing at an alarming rate. Obesity does not come from just a lack of willpower as many may imply, but rather a problem of metabolism affected by genetics, environment and behavior.

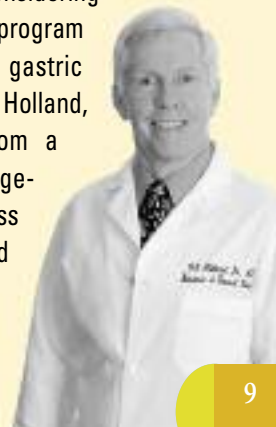
Obesity can cause diabetes, coronary artery disease, sleep apnea, high blood pressure and even some cancers just to name a few diseases. Morbid obesity is characterized by being 100 pounds or more over one's ideal healthy weight and with a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or higher, or by a BMI of 35 to 39.99 and suffering from an obesity-related disease such as diabetes, high blood pressure or sleep apnea.

Bariatric (Weight Loss) Surgery Can Help –

For these individuals, dieting and lifestyle changes may seem like a rollercoaster ride in which sustained weight loss is simply not achieved. Studies have shown that for the clinically morbidly obese person, bariatric surgery is the best way to reach sustainable weight loss. Because of this, more people are choosing bariatric surgery to achieve permanent weight loss and regain their lives.

Dr. Clarence Holland – A Proven Track Record and the Highest Quality Outcomes

St. Luke's offers a comprehensive program of care, from the initial consult to ongoing follow-up and support, for people considering weight-loss surgery. The program is led by experienced gastric bypass surgeon, Clarence Holland, MD. Patients benefit from a compassionate, knowledgeable care team and access to counseling, a dedicated web forum and a bariatric support group.



www.slhn.org