



Cath Lab Quality Improvement

Revolutionizing Heart Care One Cath Lab at a Time; The Best Care Starts with the Best Technology



CommonSpirit is using cutting edge technology to transform healthcare, making treatments faster, more precise and accessible, and ensuring a brighter and healthier future for communities across the nation.

Our Cath Lab Quality Improvement Initiative will deploy state-of-the-art technology against the number one killer in the U.S. – heart disease. Because it isn't enough that CommonSpirit provides services to all – the quality of those services must be second to none.

CommonSpirit Health is undertaking a bold initiative to replace over 80 of its most vulnerable Cath Labs across the ministry/network. This effort will require an investment of \$100 million over the next two years. Thousands of patients will be taken care of in these state-of-the-art Cath Labs, improving the care we provide in our communities.

The catheterization procedure is a low-risk, diagnostic tool that gives our providers life-saving information about the source of cardiovascular (CV) patients' health conditions and the treatments that they may require – some of which occur within a single procedure. One of the most common diagnostic and treatment interventions offered across our system, catheterization procedures rely on technology for optimal patient outcomes.





CommonSpirit's current fleet of Cath Labs are aging, with many reaching the end of support and services and require decommissioning. Without upgrading these facilities, CommonSpirit risks losing the ability to provide optimal care and to compete for patients, jeopardizing our ability to provide our annual \$5 Billion in charity care.

Access to updated and new technology also factors heavily into CommonSpirit's ability to attract and retain top notch physicians, nurses, and other providers. An upgrade of the cath lab equipment fleet will support growth, sustain ongoing patient care volume, provide a safe procedural environment, and exceed the standards of advanced CV care that our patients have come to expect from CommonSpirit. Moreover, the enhanced diagnostic and treatment capabilities allow facilities to proactively manage and treat cardiovascular diseases. This preventive care and early intervention reduce the overall burden of heart disease in the community, improving public health outcomes.

A multidisciplinary team of CommonSpirit leaders has prioritized over 80 labs for replacements based on the need for renovation and on service demand, ensuring that new equipment replacements can maximize care quality, efficiency, and patient outcomes. The requested funding will be tailored to the specific needs of each site, supplying a variety of equipment including, but not limited to, Coronary and vascular angiography systems, Electrocardiogram machines, Echocardiography, Intravascular ultrasound machines, Radiation protection systems and more.

CommonSpirit Health has had a long tradition of maintaining excellence in healthcare for all people including those made vulnerable by poverty and inequality and we will boldly build upon this tradition in the years ahead as we undertake projects to ensure our facilities are of the highest quality.



By the numbers

More than 80 labs are beyond their end of service support dates.

Four (4) labs have been decommissioned and are no longer in use.

Thirty-eight (38) labs are experiencing greater than 10% downtime.

Thirty-five (35) labs report poor image quality, creating diagnostic challenges.

Five (5) cath labs report equipment failure.

A grateful patient

At age 67, after having run 24 marathons, 11 on Pikes Peak alone, Jim Duresky began experiencing body fatigue and leg weakness. He was told it was a normal part of the aging process by five different specialists. In 2020, he saw Dr. Andrew Carter, a board-certified cardiologist at Mercy Hospital in Durango, Colorado. Using specialized cath lab equipment, Dr. Carter found Jim's circumflex artery to be 80% blocked. Jim credits the Cath Lab for saving his life. Their imaging, teamwork and expertise have added years to his life, and he is now happily enjoying a healthy retirement.