



Banner Churchill Community Hospital



801 E. Williams Ave.
Fallon, NV 89406
(775) 423-3151
www.BannerHealth.com

Heart Care Services

As the major health care provider in the Lahontan Valley area, the hospital's emergency room is equipped to stabilize patients experiencing chest pain or other discomforts due to heart disease.

Most often, patients are diagnosed in Banner Churchill's Emergency department then referred to a larger hospital in a major city to receive non-surgical or surgical treatment for their heart condition. Once patients return home, they may continue to see Banner Churchill's visiting cardiologists for follow-up care including medication management, diet and exercise instruction and testing if necessary.

The Banner Churchill staff has a reputation for serving patients with compassion and respect. Every member of the hospital's team works to maintain the dignity and enhance the well being of each patient. Banner Churchill Community Hospital offers diagnostic and follow-up heart care services.

Diagnosis

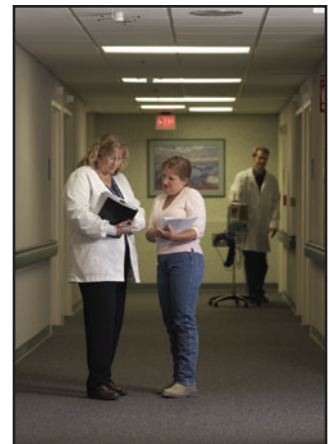
An accurate diagnosis is the first step in treating any sort of heart abnormality or disease. There are a couple of ways doctors at Banner Churchill Community Hospital can diagnose heart ailments and recommend the best method of treatment. Following are some of the most common used at this hospital.

- **Echocardiography** – During an echocardiogram, also called an echo, a technician uses a painless technique to send sound waves into the patient's chest. This produces a moving picture of the heart and heart valves.

- **Electrocardiography (ECG)** - Also called EKG, an electrocardiogram measures the electrical activity in a heartbeat. Patients can be hooked to electrodes or wear a heart monitor (a small box that weighs less than one pound). The monitoring devices send signals to a technician who observes the heart rate and rhythm.
- **Treadmill Stress Testing** - Stress/exercise testing involves studying the heart while under maximum cardiac stress. It allows a technician to measure the heart's efficiency when subjected to predetermined exercise or cardiac medications. Patients may walk on a treadmill or lie still under a camera depending on how the physician wants to see their heart function.

Education

The staff at Banner Churchill Community Hospital believes that education is key in prevention of heart disease as well as understanding heart conditions. Educational handouts are available in a printer-friendly .pdf format at www.BannerHealth.com, keyword: heart care fact sheets (keyword needs to be programmed into the Web site)





Pet Therapy

Research has proven that petting a dog can reduce blood pressure and alleviate stress. Banner Churchill Community Hospital has several dog therapists that visit patients and visitors. To bring that kind of tail-wagging joy to patients and visitors, dogs and handlers must go through training. The four-legged volunteers are tested during three or four separate observations in the hospital before admission into the program. For more information about dog therapy, call (775) 423-6548.