



CARING FROM THE HEART.

# Integration of Cardiac CT into a Cardiac Urgent Care Center

Presented by

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Capital Cardiology Associates

CARING FROM THE HEART | A BENCHMARK CARDIOLOGY PRACTICE<sup>SM</sup>

[www.CapitalCardiology.com](http://www.CapitalCardiology.com)

# Capital Cardiology Associates

- **Large Cardiology Practice**
- **35 Cardiologists**
  - **Non-invasive**
  - **Electrophysiology**
  - **Structural**
  - **Interventional**
  - **Advanced Heart Failure**
- **21 Advanced Practitioners**
- **3 major offices locations**



# Enhanced Cardiac Access- 2013

## The Problem

**Too Many Patients in the ER with Possible Cardiac Symptoms**

- **No control over imaging!**
- **Hospitalists!**
- **ER testing!**
- **Inappropriate "Observation Admissions"**

## The Solution

**Create an "Urgent Care" within our cardiology office.**

- **Open to patients with potential cardiac symptoms.**
- **We control the imaging!**
- **Avoid unnecessary admissions**

## Enhanced Cardiac Access- 2013



Capital Cardiology Associates  
ENHANCED CARDIAC ACCESS

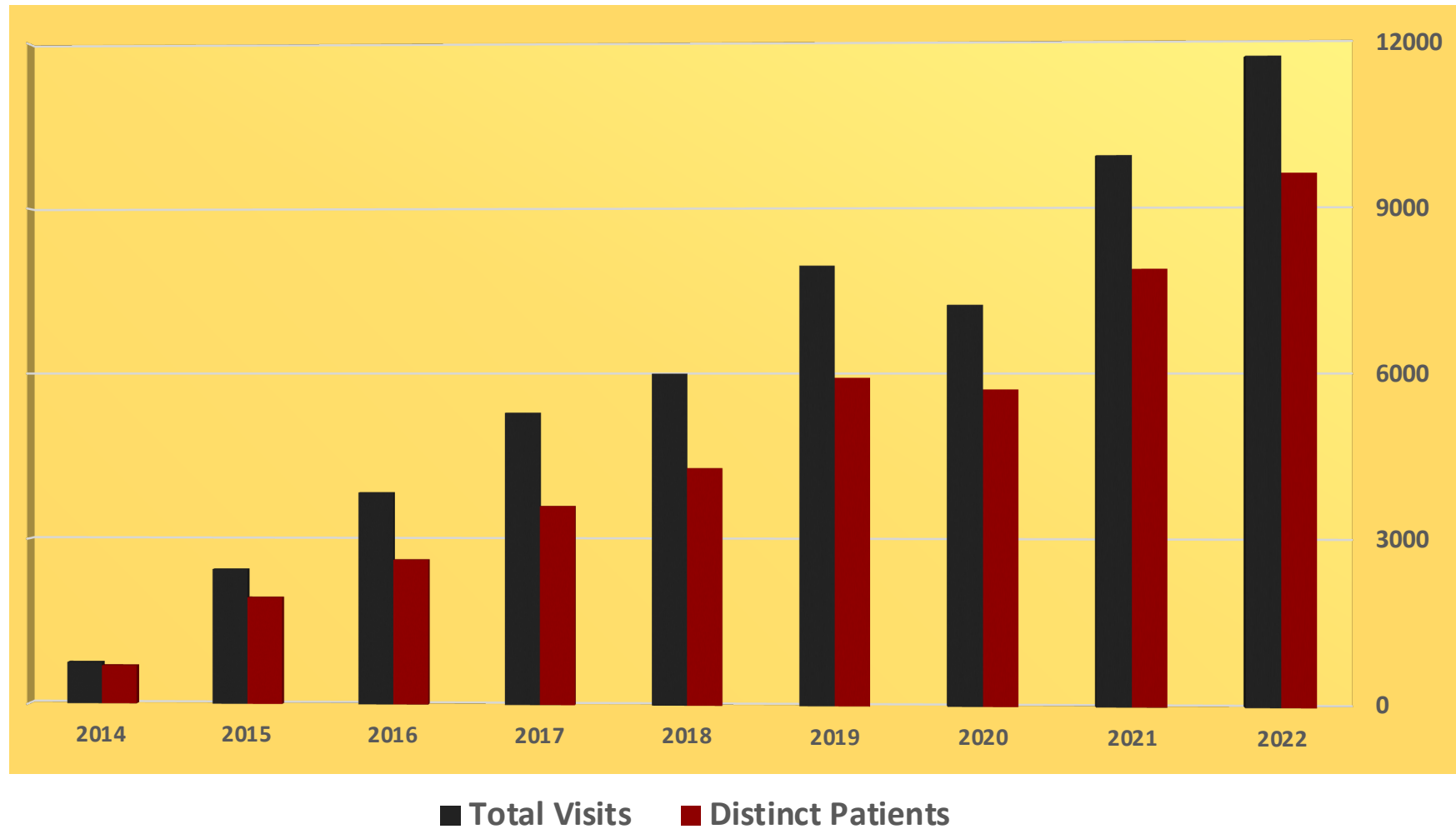
- **Created 6 "Bays"**
- **Purchased telemetry**
- **Hired an RN with cardiac experience**
- **Increased lab analysis for stat troponin and BNP**
- **Education of our triage nurses**
- **Outreach to local PCPs/ERs**



## Enhanced Cardiac Access- 2013

- **Patients with:**
  - **Chest Pain**
  - **Shortness of breath**
  - **Palpitations**
  - **Severe HTN**
  - **AFIB with RVR**
  - **Urgent Preops**
  - **Syncope**
- **Triage**
- **Labs/ECG/Vitals**
- **Advanced Practitioners perform initial evaluation**
- **Then seen by a Cardiologist**
- **Diagnostic Testing (add-on)**
- **Stress testing**
- **Echocardiography**
- **CT scanning**
  - **CAC**
  - **CT angiography**
  - **"Triple Rule Outs"**
  - **Chest CTs**
- **MCOT**
- **Ultrasound (DVT/Vascular)**

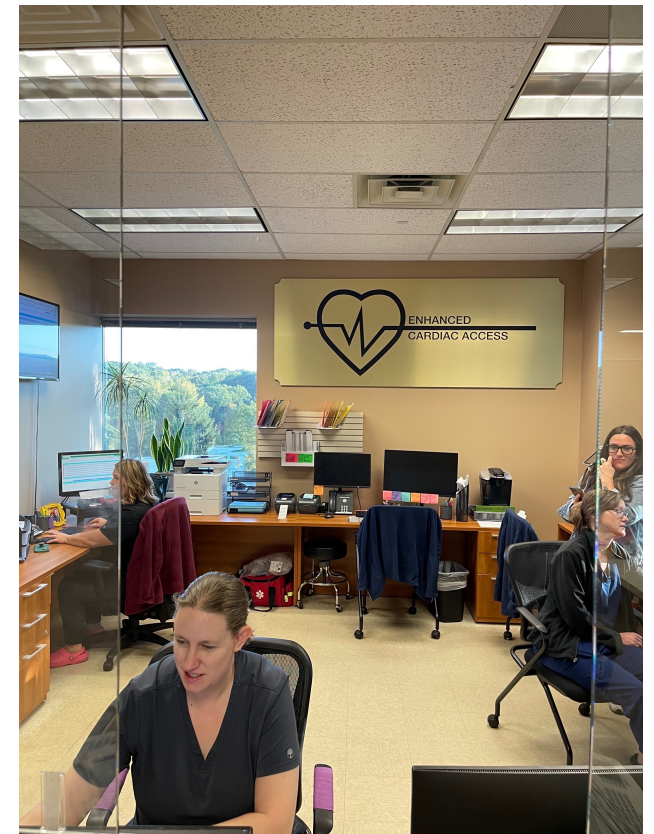
# Enhanced Cardiac Access Patient Visits





# Enhanced Cardiac Access

- 2 Current Sites
- Original site (Albany)
  - 14 Bays
  - Mean: 41 patients per day (1/3 new patients)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> site (Clifton Park)
  - 12 Bays
  - Mean: 21 patients per day (1/3 new patients)
- Disposition:
  - 96% of patients sent home
  - 4% sent to hospital
    - Admission
    - Cath Lab
    - ER



## Utilization of CT imaging

- **CT imaging: utilized in 18% of all ECA visits**
- **CAC scoring**
- **Coronary CTAs**
- **PE scans**
- **Triple rule outs**





## CT Scanning

- **CT imaging is critical to the formation of a cardiac urgent care.**
  - **For pulmonary embolism**
  - **For obstructive coronary disease**
  - **For changing risk assessment (CAC)**
- **Increases patient throughput.**
- **Facilitates safe discharges.**



**CARING FROM THE HEART.**



**QUESTIONS**