

A new addition for WMH cardiology team

Dr. Radwan Alkiek is newest physician at Soo Cardiology

A second cardiologist is now calling Sault Ste. Marie home. War Memorial Hospital is pleased to welcome Radwan Alkiek, M.D., to Soo Cardiology.

A Michigan resident for more than 13 years, Dr. Alkiek (pronounced *Al-Keek*) made the move this fall from Grand Blanc, where he had been in private practice while also serving as the director of non-invasive cardiology at Genesys Regional Medical Center. The doctor is board certified in cardiovascular care and nuclear medicine.

Alkiek isn't a complete newcomer to Sault Ste. Marie. In 2011 and 2012, he spent a few weeks here providing additional physician coverage (referred to as locums). It gave him an opportunity to see the community and eventually led to his permanent relocation.

"I like the environment here. It is so clean and I like the outdoor activities. I'm hoping I can find someone to teach me to hunt and fish," he said eagerly.

During his time here in 2011-2012, Alkiek had a chance to work with Dr. Waleed Doghmi, the cardiologist already practicing in Sault Ste. Marie. He said that he was pleased with the fact that the two men would work together as a team.

The two cardiologists are already talking about how they'll improve care for heart patients in the area. They are considering a number of additional services, but first and foremost Alkiek reports that "we will have more availability and more access for patients, as well as their primary care physicians." Additionally, a cardiologist will also be present at the hospital most days. Between the two physicians, one will be at the hospital while the other is seeing patients in the office.

Alkiek said he was pleased to find that WMH has a thriving cardiac rehabilitation program. "All of my patients who have had angioplasty, stents, bypass failure or coronary artery disease need cardiac rehab. Sometimes muscles weaken and we want them to have rehab to get back on their feet again," he explained.

The doctor received his medical degree in Syria before relocating to the United States, where he completed an internal medicine internship at Mount Sinai Hospital in Englewood, New Jersey, an internal medicine residency at Michigan State University, and a cardiology fellowship at Louisiana State University's Cardiology Department.

To make room for an additional provider, Soo Cardiology recently moved to a different suite of offices in the Community Medical Center at WMH. They are located on the first floor in suite 102. To contact the office, call (906) 253-2760.

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