

1009 West Green Street  
Hastings, MI 49058  
(269) 945-3451

News Release

Contact: Janine Dalman, Executive Director of Marketing  
Phone: (269) 945-1162  
Fax: (269) 945-4130  
Email: [jdalman@pennockhealth.com](mailto:jdalman@pennockhealth.com)

February 01, 2010

For Immediate Release

## **Pennock Health Services Gets to the Heart of Cardiology Care**

**HASTINGS, Mich.** — Pennock Health Services is announcing an expansion of cardiology services that will bring life-saving options to hundreds of West Michigan residents each year, by opening a peripheral cardiovascular clinic.

A consultant's study done in 2008, for Pennock's "You Speak We Listen" community forum campaign, uncovered a need for Pennock to have more comprehensive cardiology services. To validate these responses, Pennock conducted an extensive market share review and an independent community survey. As a direct result, Pennock created the Cardiology Task Force. In 2009, the Cardiology Task Force identified recommendations based upon their gap analysis and implemented the need for Pennock to undergo phased implementation of enhanced cardiology care. The peripheral cardiovascular clinic was identified as the first key step.

Pennock's new cardiovascular clinic will open inside their current wound clinic location. This decision was made due to the strong relationship and referral pattern between wound care patients and peripheral cardiovascular services. Peripheral arterial disease, commonly referred to as PAD, is a disease of the blood vessels outside the heart and brain. In patients with PAD, the arteries that carry blood to the legs, arms, kidneys, and stomach become narrowed or clogged, interfering with normal blood flow. Pennock's new cardiology clinic will provide comprehensive treatment for patients with peripheral arterial disease.

In partnership with West Michigan Heart, Pennock is pleased to announce that Dr. Dennis Dunning, a Peripheral and Coronary Specialist, will begin seeing patients and providing supplemental clinical services to both Pennock's Wound and Peripheral Cardiovascular Clinic. Dr. Dunning comes to Pennock as an experienced cardiologist with an extensive expertise in peripheral vascular intervention and endovascular repair. Specifically, Dr. Dunning is boarded in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine, and Interventional Cardiology and Endovascular Medicine. In partnership with Dr. Dunning, Pennock will also continue to work closely with other area endovascular and vascular surgeons to provide the best appropriate treatment for patients. With Pennock's unique team approach, appropriate medical care, and management of risk factors, patients with PAD can significantly reduce their health risks.

Pennock's new cardiovascular clinic will round out Pennock's two decades of cardiovascular services to its surrounding communities. In 2009, "Pennock Hospital performed 1,560 echocardiograms," according to Medical Director, Steve Wildren, MD, Board Certified Internist, who has passed his board examinations from the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) and the National Board of Echocardiology. Pennock has received accreditation in Adult Echocardiography and Stress Echocardiography. Echocardiographic testing is useful in the detection and management of many types of heart disease. In addition, Pennock's laboratory is one of the first thousand echocardiography labs in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico to be recognized for its commitment to high quality patient care and its provision of quality diagnostic testing. Accreditation status signifies Pennock's facility has been reviewed by an independent agency which recognizes the laboratory's commitment to quality testing for the diagnosis of heart disease.

Pennock Health Services is Barry County's premier healthcare provider, featuring Pennock Hospital, an 88-bed, non-profit, Joint Commission-accredited facility providing personalized healthcare services with state-of-the-art technology to over 130,000 people per year. In the past three years, Pennock has been recognized with the coveted Solucient Top 100® Hospital Award, Governor's Awards for Improving Safety and Quality of Care in the Hospital Setting, and the "101 Best and Brightest Places to Work" Award. Pennock offers a wide range of services, including a Family Birthing Center, MRI, Drive-Thru Pharmacy, a Health and Wellness Center, and senior independent living at Pennock Village. Pennock's State Street Center is the convenient choice for Outpatient Laboratory and Radiology Services, Patient Accounts, Hospice, Homecare, Urgent Care, and Occupational Medicine. Pennock Health Services is your partner in personal, professional, and progressive care. For additional information, call the Pennock Physician Referral line at (269) 945-1PHY (1749), or visit us online at [www.pennockhealth.com](http://www.pennockhealth.com).