

Cardiology Clinic To Open

■ *UNM Medical Group expanding care on West Side*

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Heart care options are improving for residents of the West Side and Rio Rancho.

On Monday, the University of New Mexico Medical Group will open a new cardiology clinic at the UNM Family Health Clinic at 4808 McMahon NW.

It will offer a range of health care services, including vascular care, stress tests and echo-cardiograms, said

Alicia Candelaria, a practice management specialist for the physician-owned and -operated UNM Medical Group.

The cardiology clinic will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For appointments, call 925-6001.

There will be two cardiologists, Drs. Robert DuBroff and Abinash Achrekar.

Candelaria said the Medical Group is expanding its patient care options for residents of the West Side and Rio Rancho. It currently has a rapid care clinic at the UNM West Campus building in the Rio Rancho City Center and several clinics in Albuquer-

que that provide a range of different services.

Meanwhile, Lovelace Westside Hospital this spring expanded its cardiology and pulmonary service to be able to offer 24-hour care.

The hospital at Golf Course and McMahon has offered routine cardiology care for several years. An arrangement with Cardiac Care Consultants of New Mexico, ABQ Health Partners Cardiology Services and Myo Cardiovascular Clinic enabled the hospital to be able to treat patients needing care for more critical situations such as congestive heart failure, said

Westside hospital CEO Troy Greer.

Previously patients needing that level of care had to be taken to the Lovelace Medical Center in Downtown Albuquerque.

"For the convenience of the patient it's always nice to be able to receive that level of care right there in your own community," Greer said.

The hospital has partnered with ABQ Health Partners pulmonary service to provide consultative coverage to patients needing special care. Pulmonary, or lung, related illnesses often go hand in hand with heart problems, Greer said.