



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Contact:**

Caitlin Svendsen, Marketing & Communications Coordinator  
Skagit Valley Medical Center  
Phone: (360) 848-4243  
Fax: (360) 428-6485  
[csvendsen@svmc.net](mailto:csvendsen@svmc.net)

**Skagit Valley Medical Center Brings Electrophysiology to Skagit County**

Pacific Northwest Cardiology, an affiliate of Skagit Valley Medical Center, is pleased to announce the addition of electrophysiology (EP) services with the arrival of Dr. Sanjeev Wasson on July 1st. EP studies are designed to help correct and regulate abnormal heart rhythms which are caused by irregularities in the way the heart's electrical systems are working. Interventional and non-interventional cardiac services are already available at Pacific Northwest Cardiology.

Dr. Wasson comes to Skagit County after completing training at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic, which has a nationally recognized Heart and Vascular Institute. He is one of only approximately 100 graduates in the specialty each year. Of those graduates, Dr. Wasson notes, "Very few out of these (graduates) are trained to perform complex ablation (a rhythm problem of the top chamber of the heart) and device lead extractions. All these problems are very common and prevalent, but very few physicians can provide a cure for them due to the complexity involved in these procedures." There are only a handful of experts in this field in the state of Washington.

With the help of Skagit Valley Hospital, who is adding a state-of-the-art electrophysiology lab, SVMC will have the capability to conduct EP studies, ablation procedures and perform whole range of pacemaker and implantable cardiac defibrillator (ICD) implantation, eliminating the need for many patients to travel out of the county.

Skagit Valley Medical Center is a multi-specialty medical group that has served area residents since 1971. Today the medical staff has expanded to include more than ninety physicians and allied healthcare professionals caring for patients in Skagit and North Snohomish counties. Pacific Northwest Cardiology joined SVMC in January 2008 and has served area residents since 1983. For information about Pacific Northwest

Cardiology, visit [www.pnwc.net](http://www.pnwc.net) or call (360) 336-9757. For more information about the Skagit Valley Medical Center, please visit [www.svmc.net](http://www.svmc.net).

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