

**New MMH Specialty Clinic Welcomes Cardiologists  
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The first two occupants of the Muenster Memorial Hospital Specialty Clinic are keeping hearts close to home, much to the delight of cardiac patients in Muenster and surrounding areas.

Doctors Richard F. Ammar, Jr., and Babu Makkena of Texas Cardiovascular Specialists are now housed at 503 N. Maple Street in Muenster, the former office of MMH Home Care. Doctor Ammar is currently seeing patients at the local office on Wednesdays each week, with Doctor Makkena seeing patients every other Friday.

Doctor Ammar, who has been coming to Muenster for a while now, says he is enjoying the new location and the extra room it provides for his patients and staff. Previously, Doctor Ammar worked out of the MMH Family Health Clinic.

**Richard Ammar, Jr., MD, FACC, RPVI, MBA**, was born in the coalfields of West Virginia, where he attended high school and was an all-state football player. Following graduation, he trained as a biomedical engineer at Vanderbilt. He returned to his home state for medical school at WVU and moved to Iowa for post-graduate training. There he met and married his best friend. He worked in the upper Midwest for about 14 years prior to moving to Texas.

He and his wife are blessed with two wonderful teenage boys - family, school and church activities prevent any danger of boredom in their home. When time permits, he is an avid college football and basketball fan.

Professionally, Dr. Ammar is fellowship-trained in all aspects of interventional cardiology and has been trained in vascular and endovascular medicine by some of the luminaries in the field.

Medical education and training include: Medical School at West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia; with residency and fellowship at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa.

His specialties include: Cardiology, Nuclear Cardiology, Vascular Medicine, Interventional Cardiology and Internal Medicine. He is board certified in all those specialties.



**Babu Makkena, M.D., FACC**, joined Doctor Ammar in Muenster in May, in anticipation of a continually growing patient base in the area.

Babu Makkena, M.D., is a practicing Interventional Cardiologist in Denton. Dr. Makkena graduated from University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine in 2001 and has been in practice for 13 years. Dr. Makkena also specializes in Cardiology (Cardiovascular Disease) and is board certified.

He is affiliated with Denton Regional Medical Center, Medical Center of Lewisville, Presbyterian Hospital of Denton, North Texas Medical Center of Gainesville, Baylor Heart Hospital Denton and Plano, and, now, with Muenster Memorial Hospital.

Patients of both physicians have the additional advantage of having certain tests ordered and performed at Muenster Memorial Hospital. The hospital provides EKGs, treadmill and nuclear stress tests, heart scans, echocardiograms and cardiac MRI, along with cardiac blood tests and basic chest x-rays.

MMH also provides cardiac rehabilitation for strengthening following cardiac surgery and procedures.

“We consider the specialty clinic to be integral to the operation of this hospital,” said Brian Roland, CEO of Muenster Memorial Hospital. “Cardiology will not be the only service housed there. We are actively pursuing affiliations with other physicians of various specialties, so that we can increase the number of services available locally.”

Appointments with Doctor Ammar or Doctor Makkena can be made by calling Texas Cardiovascular Specialists, 940-384-4599. Be sure to tell them that you would like to be seen in the Muenster location. Learn more by going online at: [www.texascardiovascular.com](http://www.texascardiovascular.com)

