

# HERO AT HEART

## Dr. Salwan Anton



*This year, 1.2 million Americans will have a heart attack. Half of them will die.*

*The truth is that heart disease is still the number one cause of death of adults in America — and in Michigan. But the heart doctors of Providence Heart Institute are working to change that. And that's why we salute this week's Hero At Heart.*

*Meet Dr. Salwan Anton, Cardiologist on staff at the Providence Heart Institute.*

**Q: Dr. Anton, when did you know you wanted to be a doctor?**

**A:** During my undergraduate studies in college. I had enrolled in all the science courses as my core focus to attain the academic aspects, but I ultimately chose to become a doctor to take care of patients. I enjoy assisting my patients in managing their disease through effective treatments.

**Q: What do you think are the challenges of practicing medicine?**

**A:** Number one is ensuring I have enough time to take care of each patient. Number two is being fiscally responsible in balancing the effectiveness and costs of each patient's treatment, including prescription medications and needed procedures. Number three is properly communicating the diagnosis and recommended treatment plan to ensure the patient's complete understanding.

**Q: What makes a good patient/physician relationship?**

**A:** Communication and trust...it is a two-way street. The doctor must treat the whole patient so they feel better and return to better health while ensuring they fully explain both the benefits and risks of the recommended treatment. This full disclosure ensures trust is established and open communication can exist.

**Q: What's on the horizon in heart care?**

**A:** The most recent advancement being applied in cardiology is the 3-dimensional echocardiograph technology provided by the CT angiogram device. This 64-slice CT scanner provides image clarity to diagnose heart-related conditions in a less invasive manner, which was formerly only possible through cardiac catheterization. Replacing the need for diagnostic operation is a technological advancement worth talking about.

**Q: What is some medical advice the world can't do without?**

**A:** As a patient, you should be in charge of your own medical care. While it is the doctor's responsibility to advise patients of their condition as well as the recommended treatment plan and alternative treatment options, the ultimate decision lies with the patient based on all the information and doctor's recommendation.

**Q: Why did you choose St. John Health?**

**A:** It is one of the top systems in the United States, and I am extremely happy to be part of a premiere cardiology department that is rapidly expanding. St. John offers their patients quality patient care through expert doctors and support staff in facilities that are equipped to provide the best treatment available. St. John also provides excellent patient education resources to keep the communities they serve informed about their health.

To find out your risk for heart disease, visit us online and take our 2-minute heart assessment at [www.realmedicine.org/heartcheck](http://www.realmedicine.org/heartcheck)

You can find Dr. Anton at Advanced Cardiovascular Health Specialist, PC, in Livonia. If you would like to make an appointment or would like to find out more about the 64-slice CT scan, please call 1-888-440-REAL or visit us online at [www.realmedicine.org](http://www.realmedicine.org).

Dr. Salwan Anton is an independent physician on the medical staff of Providence Hospital

**Providence Hospital is the only hospital in southeastern Michigan with a Cardiovascular Teaching program recognized as a national top 100 heart hospital five years in a row.**



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