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Electrophysiologist Sandeep Arora, MD, CCDS

Ed Kohler with his son, Chris

IMPLANTABLE CARDIAC DEVICE KEEPS SALESMAN TICKING

GREENSBURG, PA, February 17, 2012... Ed Kohler was once in a state of constant heart failure, but the 73-year-old manufacturers' representative won't let that slow him down. Instead, he relies on medication and a pacemaker to maintain a normal heart rhythm and an active lifestyle.

A rapid heartbeat and angina nearly a dozen years ago signaled something was out of sorts. That's when the New Stanton man received his first implantable cardiac device.

While Kohler's still going strong, his pacemaker needed to be replaced when its battery wore out. Electrophysiologist Sandeep Arora, MD, CCDS replaced the device during an outpatient procedure in The Heart Center at Excela Health.

Dr. Arora, fellowship trained at The Mayo Clinic, noted that pacemakers and defibrillators help to correct an irregular heartbeat. "People who need pacemakers experience a variety of symptoms including fainting episodes, lightheadedness, dizziness or shortness of breath on exertion," noted Dr. Arora. "A person who would benefit from a defibrillator typically has a weak heart, and is subject to sudden cardiac death. The defibrillator recognizes the heart rhythm problem and shocks the heart into normal rhythm."

Improved technology will continue to keep Kohler in sync, as will the regular quarterly telephonic checkups that test the pacemaker's functionality. But it's his attitude that will assure lasting good health. "I enjoy life to the max. When you have a happy

outlook, even stressful situations can be taken in stride. You've just got to keep on living."

To learn more about The Heart Center at Excelsa Health or to find a cardiologist, visit www.excelahealth.org or contact the Excelsa Health Call Center, 1-877-771-1234.