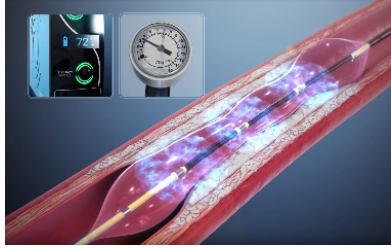


## **Virtua Cardiac Team First in South Jersey to Perform New 'Shockwave' Procedure**



The interventional cardiac team at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital performed South Jersey's first Shockwave intravascular lithotripsy to treat a patient with a blockage in the coronary arteries. The treatment opens clogged heart arteries that are especially difficult to unblock due to hard calcium deposits or twists in the arteries. Shockwave, which received FDA approval in late February, utilizes waves of sonic pressure to fracture calcium buildup within a blood vessel so to allow the deployment of a stent.

The patient, a 51-year-old man on dialysis to treat his chronic kidney failure, had already undergone several cardiac procedures, including bypass surgery after suffering a series of heart attacks. According to John Finley, IV, MD, who performed the procedure, the patient was not a candidate for additional open-heart surgery, and the condition of his arteries put him at high risk for traditional atherectomy. Shockwave proved to be the best and safest option. The procedure took about an hour. The patient stayed overnight in the hospital and returned home to recover with marked improvement in his chest pain symptoms.