Kettering Health Network is now providing a procedure that reduces the risk of stroke in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation. This procedure eliminates the need for long-term use of anticoagulants.

**Indications for Use**
The Watchman device is indicated to reduce the risk of stroke from the LAA in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation who:
- Are at increased risk of stroke and systemic embolism based on CHADS2 or CHA2DS2-VASc scores and are recommended for anticoagulation therapy.
- Are deemed to be suitable for anticoagulants.
- Have an appropriate rationale to seek a non-pharmacologic alternative to anticoagulants such as GI bleeding, severe bruising, or excessive bleeding.

**About the Procedure**
- Typically performed under general anesthesia in a cath lab using a standard transseptal technique.
- Procedure usually lasts about an hour and the patient is discharged the next day.
- Patients remain on short-term warfarin post procedure for 45 days until the device endothelializes.

**Benefits**
- Demonstrates comparable stroke risk reduction compared to warfarin.
- Demonstrates reduction in cardiovascular death by 56% compared to warfarin.
- 92% of patients stopped warfarin after 45 days.
- 99% of patients stopped warfarin at one year.

For more information or to refer a patient call **(937) 395-6023**