

Dear Patient,

On behalf of the Center for Circulatory Support, we welcome you to Michigan Medicine's Frankel Cardiovascular Center (FCVC). Our program has an internationally-recognized group of multidisciplinary doctors and allied health professionals who provide medical treatment to adult and pediatric patients with heart disorders resulting in end-stage heart failure or cardiogenic shock. The Center for Circulatory Support is a regional and national referral center for patients and offers state-of-the-art options for mechanical circulatory support.

What are Left Ventricular Assist Devices?

For some patients, conventional treatments no longer work to relieve the effects of advanced heart failure. If your condition has progressed to this point, you may be considered for implantation of a heart pump. A left ventricular assist device (LVAD) is a mechanical heart pump that is surgically to help the heart's weakened left ventricle (major pumping chamber of the heart) pump blood throughout the body. For the vast majority of patients, having an LVAD can allow them to lead an active and productive life.

Michigan Medicine's Center for Circulatory Support Program is one of only a few programs worldwide that has access to many investigational and FDA-approved mechanical circulatory support systems including:

- Thoratec HeartMate II™
- Thoratec HeartMate 3™
- HeartWare HVAD™
- CardioWest Total Artificial Heart (TAH-t)™

This allows your doctor to select the most appropriate device based on your individual need. Our doctors are actively participating in several clinical trials evaluating new mechanical circulatory support devices in addition to developing new types of devices.

Why should I choose the Program at Michigan Medicine?

- Michigan Medicine’s adult hospitals were ranked #1 in Michigan and #6 in the United States for providing high-quality patient care and treating the most challenging health conditions by U.S News & World Report for 2017-2018.
- We are National Leaders in Ventricular Assist Device Patient Care.
- Our program earned the Gold Seal of Approval™ for health care quality in 2008 and was one of the **first centers** to be awarded Disease-Specific Care Certification for Ventricular Assist Devices by The Joint Commission.
- Our patient outcomes are **above national Average** in VAD Care by the Interagency Registry for Mechanically Assisted Circulatory Support (INTERMACS).
- Our program has implanted over 872 devices and currently follows an average of 165 patients.



What is the mission of the Center for Circulatory Support?

Our Mission is as follows:

- Michigan Medicine’s Center for Circulatory Support is a superior program committed to service excellence and clinical innovations for the enhancement of patient health and well-being.
- The Center provides patients with access to highly skilled clinicians experienced in a broad variety of mechanical circulatory support devices.
- The Center provides patient-centered care with the latest research and the best technologies through a multidisciplinary team approach.

- The Center sets the standard for advancing our knowledge and education of the community, other doctors and healthcare providers from around the world.

What can I expect after having an LVAD placed?

- You will be in the hospital for approximately 2-3 weeks depending on your medical course.
- Our team will educate you and your family about how your LVAD works and how to live with a LVAD.
- Patient and caregiver education takes place during your whole hospital stay.
- Before discharge, you and you caregiver(s) go through check offs and supervised outings away from the hospital to ensure a successful transition to home
- You will access to a 24/7 VAD Emergency Line.

Please Visit Our Website to Find More Information and Videos:

- <https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/cardiac-surgery/patient-information/adult-cardiac-surgery/vad-program>

Sincerely,

The Center for Circulatory Support Program Staff

The VAD Program Staff

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

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