

Heart Failure Program: When to Call Your Doctor

What symptoms are considered an emergency?

Call 9-1-1 immediately if you have any of the following:

- Chest tightness at rest
- Unrelieved chest pain (if no nitroglycerin prescription)
- Unrelieved chest pain after taking a total of 3 nitroglycerin tabs/sprays
- Wheezing
- Confusion
- Fainting spell
- Shortness of breath when you are at rest
- Irregular or rapid heart beats

Attention: If you are not admitted Michigan Medicine, please ask the outside hospital doctor to contact us.

What symptoms are considered urgent?

The following signs and symptoms need to be treated before they become an emergency.

- Weight gain: 2 pounds or more in a day, or 4 pounds or more in one week
- Cough
- Shortness of breath with activity
- Decrease in urine output
- Loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting
- Worsening fatigue or weakness
- Increased swelling in your ankles, feet, legs or belly
- Trouble breathing when lying flat (need to sit in chair or use more pillows to sleep)

- Unusually high or low urine output
- Occasional diarrhea or abdominal cramping

What is the number to call?

- Monday through Friday from 8am-4:30pm: **Call (800) 694-0184**
Ask to speak to the Heart Failure Nurse if you have any of the signs or symptoms above.
- After 5pm or on weekends or holidays: **Call (734) 936-6267**
Ask the Operator to page your cardiologist.

When do I need to call for other issues or concerns?

Call the heart failure nurses at **(800) 694-0184** or **(734) 936-9561** between 8am-5pm Monday through Friday if you need:

- Lab results
- Prescription refills
- Prescription prior authorizations

You also need to call us at **(734) 647-7321** or toll free at **(888) 287-1082** if you:

- Have questions related to your medications
- Can't go for your scheduled blood work
- Need to make, cancel or confirm an appointment

If you need to send a fax the number is **(734) 615-3326**. Be sure to write the name of your Michigan Medicine Heart Failure doctor on the cover sheet if you have forms that need your doctor's signature - disability, insurance, work, or other.

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