

# Welcome to the Pulmonary Hypertension Program

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**The University of Michigan's Pulmonary Hypertension Team  
welcomes you to Michigan Medicine!**

Thank you for choosing us to be part of your care team. Our multidisciplinary program focuses on the care and treatment of patients with pulmonary hypertension (PH). We are honored to be accredited as a **Center of Comprehensive Care** by the Pulmonary Hypertension Association, and to be a clinical trial site for many research studies.

## **Meet our team**

We would like to introduce you to our team of doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses, and research coordinators. On your first visit one of our doctors will see you. During later visits you may be cared for by a doctor or a nurse practitioner. This team-based approach allows us more access to the Pulmonary Hypertension clinic, and permits more time to be spent with you for your care. This gives us the ability to provide the highest level of care in both the clinic setting as well as in the hospital if necessary. Our team includes:

### **Medical team:**

- **Vallerie McLaughlin, MD**  
Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Program & Professor of Internal Medicine
- **Victor Moles, MD**  
Associate Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Program & Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine

### **Clinic team:**

- **Lori Shope, RN**  
Clinical Nurse
- **Marsha Burks, BSN, RN**  
Clinical Care Coordinator
- **Jennifer Alford, BSN, RN**  
Clinical Care Coordinator

- **Tom Cascino, MD, MSc**  
Clinical Lecturer of Internal Medicine
- **Todd Biggs, BSN, RN**  
Clinical Nurse
- **Catherine Knight, RN, MSN, ACNP-BC**  
Nurse Practitioner
- **Mallory Newsted, BS**  
Clinical Research Coordinator
- **Susie McDevitt, DNP, ACNP-BC**  
Nurse Practitioner
- **Emily Norris**  
Clinical Research Coordinator
- **Arielle Williams**  
Clinical Research Coordinator
- **Wendi Shinn**  
Patient Service Associate,  
Intermediate

### **What should I expect at my initial visit?**

Plan to be in the clinic for 2-3 hours for your first visit. A typical visit will include:

- Pre-appointment electrocardiogram (ECG) test- a device used to record the electrical activity of the heart.
- Appointment with your provider.
- Post appointment testing (if needed) including blood draw or ultrasound studies.

You may need to complete pre-appointment testing before you come for your visit. This gives your provider the opportunity to discuss results with you during your visit. If this is needed, we will assist you in finding a testing option close to home. Depending on the nature of your visit, there are times you will meet with doctor trainees and nurse practitioners before meeting your PH doctor. After meeting with you, they will review your case with the PH doctor.

## What kind of education will I receive?

During your appointment you will receive a blue and gold education folder that includes information about pulmonary hypertension, how to best manage your symptoms and our contact information. When you check out the staff will also print an after visit summary which may have additional information for you.

## Where can I find more information about Pulmonary Hypertension?

For sources of information and support, we strongly recommend:

- Pulmonary Hypertension Association: <https://www.phassociation.org>
- Michigan Pulmonary Hypertension Support Group
  - Call (734) 662-8433 or email [beverlylip@comcast.net](mailto:beverlylip@comcast.net) to join.
  - Michigan Medicine Pulmonary Hypertension support group meets most months on Saturday at University Hospital.
- Pulmonary Hypertension Peer Mentor Program- designed to help empower patients with pulmonary hypertension to navigate living with this disease.
  - Ask your PH team for more information and to be connected
- PH Aware: <https://www.phaware.global/>
- Michigan Medicine Pulmonary Hypertension Program:  
<http://michmed.org/PqwDp>

## What is the contact information for the Michigan Pulmonary Hypertension Program?

Reason for call:	Number to call:
Routine care and questions	Frankel Cardiovascular Call Center (844) 369-7816, Option 2 Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm.
Appointment scheduling/rescheduling	Frankel Cardiovascular Call Center (844) 369-7816, Option 2 Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm.
Emergencies	9-1-1

We look forward to partnering with you and your loved ones to support you in managing and optimizing your Pulmonary Hypertension and overall health.

Sincerely,

The Pulmonary Hypertension Program Team

09/2022, CVC #212