

# Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) Decision Making Resources

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Deciding if a Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) is right for you can be a difficult and personal choice. The handouts and books on this page are meant to help you understand what a VAD is and to help you and your family make the most informed decision. Please read these in the order they are listed.

1. *Cardiology Patient Pages: Ventricular Assist Devices: Important Information for Patients and Families.* (Article in Circulation: Journal of the American Heart Association). Author: Michael M. Givertz, MD  
**Link:** <https://tinyurl.com/s3dh5cg>
2. *A Decision Aid for LVAD Candidates: A device for patients with advanced heart failure.* (Booklet: Colorado Program for Patient Centered Decisions)  
**Link:** <https://tinyurl.com/y6rf578l>
3. Michigan Medicine Adult Heart Transplant and LVAD Support Group Schedule:  
**Link:** <http://michmed.org/R11dj>
4. What Are the Caregiver's Rights? (Article from the American Heart Association)  
**Link:** <https://tinyurl.com/ww5sgb2>
5. *Heart 2 Heart: Stories from Patients with Left Ventricular Assist Devices* (Book). Author Ruth Halben, BA, MSW, LMSW. Purchase the book on Amazon, or download reusable and remixable chapters from the book by visiting the link here: <http://michmed.org/axx31> (click "Materials" then "Texts").

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