GUIDELINES FOR REFERRAL
Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) and/or Heart Transplantation*

Note: Candidacy for heart transplantation not required for consideration of VAD therapy. VAD therapy is also available for Destination Indication (permanent use).

Patients should have:
- At least Class III Heart Failure symptoms
- LVEF ≤ 35% (This guideline is not necessary for patients with diastolic heart failure secondary and preserved left ventricular function that is due to restrictive cardiomyopathies; e.g. hypertrophic cardiomyopathy or congenital heart defects)

And, any of the following criteria:
- Early End Stage Organ Dysfunction
  - CrCl ≤ 45cc/min
- Hemodynamic Instability
  - Ventricular Arrhythmias
  - Hypotension
  - Low cardiac output
- Hospitalization for Heart Failure in the past 6 months
- Intolerance/withdrawal of evidence-based heart failure oral agents
- Non-responsive to CRT/BiV pacing
- Being considered for or currently on Inotropes
- Cardiac cachexia
- Diuretic Dose:
  - Furosemide ≥ 160mg/day
  - Torsemide ≥ 80 mg/day
  - Bumetanide ≥ 4 mg/day
- Seattle Heart Failure Score ≥ 1.5 or 1 year mortality estimate > 15%
- Peak exercise oxygen consumption ≤ 55% of predicted or absolute number ≤ 14 (for women) or ≤ 16 (for men) ml/kg/min
- 6 Minute Walk Test distance of ≤ 350 meters

(*Not responding to Standard Medical Therapy)
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Recommended Testing Prior to Evaluation (within 3 months):
- Echocardiogram
- Right Heart Catheterization if available
- Chemistries and Complete Blood Count
- Chest radiograph
- ECG
- Pulmonary Function Test
- Ankle-Brachial Index Test
- Carotid Duplex Scan
- Abdominal ultrasound to evaluate for AAA and hepatic disease
- Non Contrast CT scan of the thorax if history of prior cardiac surgery

FOR PATIENT REFERRAL:
- MLINE 800-962-3555 (physician to physician)
- New Patient Scheduling (Monday - Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm)
  Call: 734-647-7321 (choose Option 2, followed by Option 1)
- Or, complete: “Michigan Medicine Outpatient Consult Request Form”
  Fax: 734-647-4285

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We follow a Shared Care Model and may collaborate with you regarding ongoing management of your patient.