



Welcome!

On behalf of the MATRix (Mitral and Tricuspid Interventions) Team we would like to **welcome you** to the Michigan Medicine Frankel Cardiovascular Center. The MATRix team is committed to providing transcatheter (catheter-based) therapies for Mitral and Tricuspid valve disease.

What is heart valve disease?

Heart valve disease occurs when one or more of your heart valves does not open or close properly. Heart valve disease can be present from birth or develop later in life. The causes of heart valve disease can often be linked to:

- Valve problems that exist from birth (congenital malformations).
- Related illnesses and conditions such as infection that damages the heart valve leaflets or ischemic (inadequate blood supply) damage from a heart attack.
- The natural aging process may also weaken already damaged valve leaflets or harden normal valve tissue.

How is heart valve disease diagnosed?

Your provider can order tests such as an echocardiogram or a heart catheterization to show if your heart valves are not functioning properly.

Signs and symptoms of heart valve disease can include:

- Fatigue
- Fluid buildup
- Shortness of breath
- Irregular heartbeat
- Heart murmur
- Heart attack
- Stroke
- Dizziness

Who are the members of my care team?

The MATRix multidisciplinary team includes interventional heart doctors, heart surgeons, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, and research coordinators who are dedicated to your evaluation, treatment, and outcome.

What is the selection process for transcatheter therapy?

Your eligibility for one of these treatment options will be decided by a specialized team based on criteria such as:

- Your age
- If you are showing signs of significant heart valve disease symptoms
- MATRIx team determines you are at high or increased surgical risk for complications during or after open heart surgery
- You have other serious medical conditions

Not all patients are candidates for transcatheter procedures to treat their mitral or tricuspid valve disease. After meeting with a MATRIx Heart Doctor or Heart Surgeon, your history and testing will be further evaluated by the MATRIx Team screening committee in a multidisciplinary meeting hosted every other Monday.

The team's evaluation of your studies and history will help determine if you are a suitable candidate for a transcatheter surgical approach. If you are eligible, you may need to have further testing to determine if your heart and valve anatomy are suitable for the elected treatment.

On behalf of the MATRIx team, **thank you** for choosing the Frankel Cardiovascular Center at Michigan Medicine. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact our MATRIx Care Team/MATRIx Clinical Care Coordinator at **(888) 287-1082**.

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