

# Heart Transplant Evaluation Team

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Dear Patient,

Welcome to the Heart Failure and Transplant Management Program. Your doctor has referred you to our program for a heart transplant evaluation. This binder will walk you through the entire evaluation process.

## **What is included in the evaluation process?**

As a potential heart transplant candidate, you will complete an evaluation process that includes a variety of blood tests, procedures, and consultations. You can find a checklist of all requirements under the “checklist transplant” tab of your binder.

Our staff will help you schedule all your necessary testing. You will receive an appointment schedule with the date and time of your tests. If you have had any of the tests within the past 6 months, they **do not** need to be repeated - but we will need your doctor to fax the results to us.

The family member/loved one (at least one) who will support you through the pre-post-transplant phase should attend your appointment with the transplant surgeon as well as your appointment with the social worker.

**Please note:** Once your evaluation is complete, the transplant team will meet to determine if you are eligible for a heart transplant. You will be informed of the committee’s decision.

## What are important things for me to know?

To have the best chance for a successful transplant, please review the following:

- **Communication**

It is vital for patients to stay in regular contact with the Heart Transplant team. We provide 2 copies of “How to Contact Us”. Keep one copy with your binder and post the other on your fridge or someplace easy to find.

- **Testing** is required to determine whether you are an appropriate candidate for heart transplant.

- See “**Pre-Transplant Evaluation**” section for testing information.
- Some testing must be done at the University of Michigan. We will notify you of the date and time of those tests.
- Some testing can be done elsewhere. Start right now to schedule and complete these (immunizations, dental, pap smear and mammograms). Ask for the results to be faxed to our office at **(734) 998-2511**
- Note: Tests done in the past 6 months do not need to be repeated, but we need the results faxed to us.
- If you have special needs because of insurance issues, please let us know.

- **Screening** for Substance Abuse

Substance abuse has adverse effects on your health. The University of Michigan Heart Transplantation Program screens all patients for substance abuse (this includes cigarettes and alcohol). Review the screening guidelines in the “**Pre-Transplant Evaluation**” section. For questions about substance abuse screening, call our office or ask during an office visit.

## Who do I call if I have questions?

Your Heart Failure Nurse will continue to follow you until you are listed for a transplant. You have many other staff who will support you during the

evaluation stage. You will find their information below. You may contact them any time you have questions or concerns.

### For Transplant Evaluation/Care

Reason for call	Number to call
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency situation</li> </ul>	<b>9-1-1</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urgent needs <b>after hours</b></li> </ul>	<b>Hospital Paging</b> <b>(734) 736-6267</b> after 5pm, weekends or holidays. Ask to speak with your heart failure doctor.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transplant related questions</li> <li>• Schedule a test</li> <li>• General questions related to heart transplant</li> <li>• Request to speak with a Pre-Heart Transplant Coordinator</li> <li>• Prescription refills (for those already on the transplant list)</li> <li>• Appointment scheduling/rescheduling</li> </ul>	<b>Heart Transplant Call Center</b> <b>(855) 429-0474</b> between 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heart Failure Symptom concerns</li> <li>• Prescription refills (for those waiting to be placed on the transplant list)</li> </ul>	<b>Main Call Center (888) 287-1082</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointment scheduling/rescheduling</li> </ul>	
Fax forms for provider signature (disability, insurance, work, other).	Send fax to: <b>(734) 998-2511</b> Please note: Write the name of your UM Heart Failure doctor on the cover sheet.
To connect with a Financial Coordinator	Anessa Varney <b>(734) 763-1528</b>

**Please Note:** You will continue to be followed by your heart failure nurse until it is determined that you are an appropriate candidate for placement on the heart transplant list.

## Heart Transplant Team Members

### Heart Surgeons

Jonathan Haft, MD  
*Surgical Director, Heart Transplant Program*  
*Medical Director, ECMO Program*  
*Co- Director, Cardiovascular ICU*  
*Cardiac Surgeon*

Francis Pagani, MD, PhD  
*Surgical Director, Center for Circulatory Support*  
*Cardiac Surgeon*

Robert Hawkins, M.D.  
*Cardiac Surgeon*

Matthew A. Romano, MD  
*Cardiac Surgeon*

## **Cardiologists**

Monica Colvin, MD

*Medical Director, Cardiac Transplant  
Program*

*Cardiologist*

Scott Hummel, MD

*Cardiologist*

Keith Aaronson, MD

*Cardiologist*

Matthew Konerman, MD

*Cardiologist*

Todd M. Koelling, MD

*Director, Heart Failure Program*

*Cardiologist*

Taylor Lebeis, M.D.

*Cardiologist*

David B. Dyke, MD

*Co-Director, CICU*

*Cardiologist*

John M. Nicklas, MD

*Cardiologist*

Kareem M. Ballut, MD

*Cardiologist*

Maryse Palardy, MD

*Cardiologist*

Abbas Bitar, MD

*Cardiologist*

Supriya Shore, M.D.

*Cardiologist*

Jessica Golbus, M.D.

*Cardiologist*

Robert Solomon, M.D.

*Cardiologist*

Reema Hasan, MD

*Cardiologist*

Marty Tam, M.D.

*Cardiologist*

Audrey H. Wu, MD, MPH

*Cardiologist*

## **Nursing**

Paul Schenk, MSN, RN  
*Senior Nursing Director*

Michael Heinzerling, BSN, RN  
*Clinical Care Coordinator*

Thea Picklesimer, MA, BSN, RN  
*Clinical Care Coordinator*

Vance Butler, BSN, RN  
*Clinical Care Coordinator*

## **Social Work**

Ruth Halben, LMSW  
*Pre-Transplant Social Worker*

Jessica Singer, LMSW  
*Post-Transplant Social Worker*

Jack Harrington, LMSW  
*Pre-Transplant & LVAD Social Worker*

## **Clerical Support**

Tara Wiggins  
*Patient Services Intermediate*

## **Financial Consultant**

Anessa Varney  
*Inpatient Financial Coordinator*  
*UMH Admissions and Business*  
*Services*

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by University of Michigan Health for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by U-M Health and for which U-M Health does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan

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