Ventricular Assist Device

Alternate names:

- VAD
- Left Ventricular Assist Device or LVAD
- Mechanical heart pump
- Heart-assist device

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The purpose of this guide is to help patients preparing for or living with a Ventricular Assist Device and their families to find sources of information and support. This list is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather to provide starting points for information seeking. The resources may be obtained at the Wellness Resource Center, room 210.

VAD models are available for viewing at the Wellness Resource Center

Information sources about heart transplantation are listed in *the Heart Transplantation- Pre-transplant* information guide.

Brochures, Fact sheets

- Patient Education Institute. *Patient Education Booklet: Heart Disease and VADs.*
- Thoratec. *Patient handobook for PVAD, IVAD, HeartMate XVE and HeartMate II.*
  Request from Thoratec at: http://www.thoratec.com or call (800) 456-1477

Audiovisual Resources

- Living with the HeartMate, Volumes I and II - DVD
- Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) A treatment Choice for Heart Failure - DVD
  Request from Thoratec at www.thoratec.com

Web Resources

- **Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)** on the FDA site
  Access at: http://www.fda.gov/hearthealth/ and type "VAD" in the search box.
  An overview of VAD's with pictures and links to more information.

- **Thoratec Corporation**
  Access at: http://www.thoratec.com/thoratec-patients/
  This site has basic information on VAD's. Some materials may be accessed online with registration and some may be requested on the site.

- **Worldheart Corporation**
  Access at: http://www.worldheart.com/patients/
  This site provides detailed information about this company's device the Novacor® LVAS including graphics and a the patient education booklet.

- **University of Michigan Cardiovascular Center – Learn About Cardiovascular Disease**
  Access at: http://www.med.umich.edu/cvc/learn/index.html
  This site links to overviews of heart conditions and disorders, tests, procedures, treatments, prevention and wellness topics.

University of Michigan Resources

- **The Preventive Cardiology program** at Domino's Farms offers a number of relevant program and services Including:
  - Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
  - Exercise Consultations
  - Nutrition Services
  - Stress Management Services
    For more information access http://www.med.umich.edu/cvc/adult/serpre.htm or call: 734.998.7400.

- **Tobacco Consultation Service**
  Group and individual quit-smoking programs.
  For more information access: http://www.med.umich.edu/mfit/tobacco/ or call 734.936.5988.

Patient Support Organizations

- American Heart Association
  Web site: http://www.heart.org
  Tel.: 1-800-242-8721
- The Mended Hearts, Inc.
  Web site: http://www.mendedhearts.org
  Information Line: 1-888-432-7899

This document is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Our aim is to promote active participation in your care and treatment
by providing information and education. Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options should be discussed with your physician.

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