



VAD / Transplant Program

Contract to promote compliance with medical team requirements and abstinence from alcohol, tobacco & drugs of abuse

We highly value an effective provider-patient relationship. To maintain that and be able to provide quality medical care that addresses your unique needs we need to set expectations for participation in your care. We expect compliance with taking your medications, getting labs drawn, attending appointments and timely communication with the advanced heart failure team. Following the recommendations of the health team is essential.

I _____, have been informed that the use of alcohol, tobacco, and recreational drugs (drugs of abuse) are dangerous to my health and have been associated with complications and/or death after ventricular assist device (VAD) implantation and heart transplantation.

For this reason I understand to become a candidate for transplantation, I need to abstain from alcohol, all use of tobacco products, this includes chewing tobacco, and recreational drugs (drugs of abuse). If I am accepted as a candidate, I understand that continued abstinence and compliance are essential to remain a candidate. I also understand that abstinence is expected lifelong.

To assure this, I agree to and will comply with periodic random blood and urine tests for nicotine, or drugs. Failure to complete testing within 2-3 hours of notification will be considered a positive test. Any positive result puts your status on the transplant list in jeopardy.

Once I am on the transplant list, I understand that if I engage in any use of tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs of abuse, I will be on “hold” on the transplant waiting list. This means that a donor organ will not be accepted for me. If I continue use or do not adhere to the team’s recommendations, I jeopardize my candidacy for transplantation and my ability to receive a heart transplant.

Signatures:

_____ Candidate Date _____

_____ Physician Date _____

_____ Social Worker Date _____

_____ Transplant Coordinator Date _____