Ventricular Assist Devices at Rush

Cardiologists at Rush continue to test the next generation of FDA-approved ventricular assist devices (VADs) in order to deliver the best treatment opportunities to heart failure patients. VADs can be used by advanced heart failure patients who are waiting for a donor heart to become available. It is also a permanent treatment option for patients in the advanced stages of heart failure who are not eligible for heart transplantation.

Candidates for VADs include patients who have cardiac disease resulting in significant limitation of physical activity or an inability to carry on any physical activity without discomfort.

VADs are not an appropriate option for some patients with heart failure, including those with irreversible kidney failure, liver disease, lung disease or blood clotting disorders

Types of VADs

Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD)

An LVAD helps the left ventricle pump blood to the aorta and can serve as a bridge to heart transplant while the patient waits for a donor.

Right Ventricular Assist Device (RVAD)

An RVAD helps the right ventricle pump blood to the pulmonary artery and is typically used only for temporary support after surgery until the heart regains its strength.

Biventricular Assist Device (BiVAD)

Using an LVAD and RVAD at the same time, BiVAD supports both of the heart's pumping chambers in cases where neither chamber works well enough to meet the patient's needs.

To learn more about ventricular assist devices at Rush, please call (312) 942-5020

Location

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