



## Vancouver Transcatheter Heart Valve Program Information for Referring Physicians and Hospitals

The Centre for Heart Valve Innovation is a hub of multidisciplinary expertise, heart valve technology, procedural approaches and program development innovation. Since performing the first successful transcatheter transarterial and transapical balloon-expandable aortic valve implantations in 2005, our team has become international leaders in this game-changing field. The Centre for Heart Valve Innovation is focused on advancing valve technologies and procedures that solve clinical problems, sustaining excellent outcomes, and offering a patient-centred program in close partnership with referring physicians. We marked the 1,000<sup>th</sup> transcatheter heart valve procedure performed at St. Paul's Hospital in June 2014.

### The Team

Our Heart Team includes a collaborative group of cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, imaging specialists, geriatricians, nurses and other clinicians:

<b>Medical director:</b>	John Webb	<b>Echocardiologists:</b>	Robert Moss
<b>Cardiac surgeons:</b>	Anson Cheung		Bradley Munt
	Jian Ye		Christopher Thompson
	Richard Cook	<b>Radiologist:</b>	Jonathan Leipsic
<b>Interventional cardiologists:</b>	Robert Boone	<b>Geriatrician:</b>	Amanda Hill
	David Wood	<b>Administrators:</b>	Janis McGladrey
<b>Nurses:</b>	Leslie Achtem		Cindy Lawlor
	Sandra Lauck	<b>Program clerk:</b>	Rosy Mandics

### The Program

The Centre for Heart Valve Innovation provides access to multiple transcatheter heart valve therapies and devices, participates in clinical trials, and works in close collaboration with international colleagues and industry partners to advance treatment options for the management of valvular heart disease. If indicated and recommended by the Heart Team, patients may be eligible for procedures approved by Health Canada, available through the Health Canada Special Access Programme or by enrolment in clinical trials.

Referrals can be made for the assessment of eligibility for the following procedures:

#### **Aortic valve disease:**

- ✓ Transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) in native or failed bioprosthetic valves (valve-in-valve TAVI);

#### **Mitral valve disease:**

- ✓ Percutaneous mitral valve repair (i.e., *MitraClip*);
- ✓ Transcatheter mitral valve implantation (TMVI) in native or failed bioprosthetic valves (valve-in-valve TMVI);

#### **Other valve disease:**

- ✓ Transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation.



Centre for  
Heart Valve Innovation  
St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver



### *The Referral Process*

The Heart Team works closely with referring physicians and cardiac clinics who remain patients' primary care provider throughout their care in the Centre for Heart Valve Innovation. All referrals are processed centrally through the program's clinic. In-patient referrals can be made directly to the clinic with subsequent physician to physician discussion. Referrals are best processed using the referral form available at [www.heartcentre.ca](http://www.heartcentre.ca). A medical history, echocardiogram report (and images if available), and recent blood work (eGFR and Hgb) are required. Other supportive diagnostic reports and documents can help expedite the eligibility assessment. Referring physicians are notified by fax of the acceptance of the referral.

Standard diagnostic work-up may include cardiac catheterization, CT chest and pelvic, additional echocardiography, and medical, surgical and nursing assessment. All patients are reviewed by the interdisciplinary Heart Team. This process may include confirmation of high/excessive risk for open surgical approach by a transcatheter heart valve surgeon, consideration of the patient's likelihood to derive benefit from the procedure, and/or eligibility for a clinical trial. We strive to coordinate the work-up in a timely way that minimizes the impact on our patients.

Patients/family and referring physician(s) are informed of the recommendation for treatment by the THV Program Coordinator and/or physician who are available to discuss the treatment recommendation if required.

Following discharge, most patients are seen at St. Paul's Hospital after 30 days. Study protocols may require additional visits. Implanting physicians remain available to consult on the longer term care requirements upon request from referring physicians.

### *Contact Information*

We are committed to close collaboration and communication with referring physicians, cardiac clinics and hospitals. Questions and referrals can be forwarded to the Centre for Heart Valve Innovation office:

Tel : 604-682-2344 ext. 62658

Fax : 604-806-9878

Email: [transcatheterheartvalve@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:transcatheterheartvalve@providencehealth.bc.ca)

Thank you for your interest in the Centre for Heart Valve Innovation. We look forward to working with you in the future and welcome your input to ensure we provide patient access and excellent outcomes.