

Our Innovative Algorithm of Care

1

Patient Self-Referral

Cardiologist Referral

Primary Care Physician Referral

Patients may be referred to the Center by their cardiologist, primary physician or may request an appointment on their own by calling 219-983-5249.



2

Patient Navigator

Conducts initial patient interview. Coordinates all diagnostic testing following AHA/ACC Guidelines.* All testing done prior to physician exam and consultation.

(*Diagnostic testing may include: initial echocardiogram, transesophageal echo, exercise stress echo, cardiac MRI, cardiac catheterization, follow-up echocardiogram.)

3

Heart Valve Center

Patient appointment and consultation with Dr. Jay Shah, Medical Director of the Heart Valve Center.

4

Multidisciplinary HEART TEAM Conference and Assessment

An Individualized Treatment Plan developed within 24 Hours

Our specialists include:

Cardiologists

Cardiothoracic Surgeon

Referring Physician

Patient Navigator/Cardiovascular Clinical Nurse Specialist

5

Patient Navigator

Communicates individualized treatment plan to patient and family.

Includes:

- Helping to understand diagnosis and treatment plan.
- Outlining next steps (surgical and non-surgical options).
- Coordinating and scheduling appointments and education.

6

Ongoing Patient Management

Patient Navigator will continue to:

- Manage patients through all stages of their care.
- Communicate with patient's doctor and health care team.
- Coordinate and schedule appointments.
- Link patients to cardiac and valve resources and services at hospital and in the community.
- Be an advocate by helping patients get answers to financial and insurance questions, etc.