

HEART FUNCTION CLINIC FOR HEART FAILURE

At the McLaren Bay Region Heart Function Clinic For Heart Failure, our team of highly dedicated and experienced medical professionals work with patients using current guidelines for treating heart failure that illustrates increased life expectancy. This guideline therapy includes adjusting medications, modifying behavior, monitoring responses to individualized treatment, coordinating care with the patient's primary care provider and cardiologist and facilitating referrals for advanced heart failure treatment when indicated. Our primary goal is to improve the patient's quality of life and avoid repeated hospitalizations.

SIGNS OF HEART FAILURE:

- Shortness of breath (especially if worse when lying down)
- Persistent coughing or wheezing
- Tiredness, fatigue
- Lack of appetite, nausea
- Swelling of legs and abdomen
- Weight gain
- Decreased ability to perform daily tasks

COMMON CAUSES OF HEART FAILURE:

- Heart attack (myocardial infarction)
- High blood pressure (hypertension)
- Narrowing of heart's arteries (coronary artery disease)
- Heart valve disease, viral infections, alcohol/drug abuse, diabetes, and severe lung disease

REDUCING HOSPITALIZATIONS WITH CARDIOMEMS:

Many people with a heart failure diagnosis have symptoms that require hospitalization.

CardioMEMS Pulmonary Pressure Monitoring device allows our team to continually monitor a person's pressures without a hospital admission. The device is small and can be implanted in our cath lab in an outpatient procedure.

In a heart failure patient, pressure elevation in the lungs is an early indicator that heart failure symptoms will likely follow. Through CardioMEMS, an alert can be sent to our office indicating that a change in medication may help prevent heart failure symptoms and a hospital admission. Patients who have CardioMEMS monitoring have fewer hospitalizations, and a better quality of life.

TO MAKE A REFERRAL:

Please contact **McLaren Bay Heart & Vascular**



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