



Mitral Valve Patient Checklist

Be your own best advocate for mitral valve care. Use these conversation starters as ideas for how to talk to your cardiologist or surgeon about creating your own mitral valve plan:

- What type of mitral valve disease do I have?
- What tests are done to diagnose mitral valve regurgitation?
- How serious is my mitral valve condition?
- What symptoms or circumstances warrant a call to your office?
- Are there any emergency conditions that are more likely because of my mitral valve problem?
- Why would someone need mitral valve repair surgery? Is the outcome different from a mitral valve replacement surgery?
- Why would someone need mitral valve replacement surgery?
- Can mitral valve regurgitation heal on its own? What about stenosis?
- Is early surgery recommended for mitral valve regurgitation or stenosis?
- What are the pros and cons between mitral valve repair and mitral valve replacement?
- How many repair surgeries have you performed?
- How many replacement surgeries have you performed?
- How often do you recommend repair over replacement?
- What happens if I choose to ignore my problem long term?
- Is there a recognized Mitral Valve Repair Reference Center in our area? Will my surgery take place there?