

The Program for Adult Congenital Heart Disease (PACHD)

PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

Advance preparation will help you get the most benefit out of your visit with your health care providers at the Penn State Hershey's Program for Adult Congenital Heart Disease.

Allow yourself ample time for parking. If this is your first visit to the Penn State Hershey Heart & Vascular Institute, you will need some extra time to get your bearings to find the areas for your various tests as well as for your visit with your physician/provider in the outpatient clinic. There are volunteers who are available to direct you to your destination. Please ask for assistance.

Make sure that you register at the reception area of the clinic so that we are made aware of your arrival.

- Make a list of any questions you may have. Bring your list with you.
- Bring your health insurance cards.
- Bring all your medications in their original containers. Remember to include over the counter drugs, herbal remedies, vitamins, and birth control medication.
- Ensure that we have your current and correct contact information
 - Full and correct name
 - Date of birth
 - Address
 - Telephone numbers (home, work)
 - Emergency contact person and telephone number
 - Names of current family physician and any specialists involved in your care

If you are scheduled for tests on the same day as your appointment with the physician, we advise you to bring a lunch or money for food at the cafeteria.

Make sure you understand your heart problem and any associated precautions or restrictions such as antibiotic prophylaxis, exercise limitations, etc. Feel free to ask questions so that you have a clear understanding of your heart abnormality.

If you have had tests, ask about the results and ask questions to clarify what the test results mean. If you would like copies of your report from your visit, please let us know and be sure your address and contact information is up to date.

If you need have records from other physicians, emergency department visits or outside testing be sure that we have these records ahead of time.

Reports may be sent via: **Fax** to: (717) 531-7969

OR Mail to:

Program for Adult Congenital Heart Disease Penn State Hershey Heart & Vascular Institute 500 University Drive, MC H047 Hershey, PA 17033-0850 Phone 717-531-5888

After you have seen your cardiologist, before leaving the Heart Institute you should make sure that you have scheduled your appointments for testing and a follow-up visit.