Personal Health Passport

A publication of the

Adult Congenital Heart Association

Sponsored by the

American College of Cardiology Foundation
ATTENTION!
I HAVE:

- History of rhythm abnormalities – see diagnosis/EKG
- AICD   Pacemaker   Artificial valve(s)
- Anticoagulated using: _________ Target INR: ______
- Risk of stroke   History of stroke
- Risk of SBE   History of SBE
- Fevers of unknown origin should be cultured
- Abnormal blood flow to ___left ___right arm.
  Blood pressure/pulse will be absent or diminished
- Persistent R to L shunt. IV air filters recommended
- Typical hemoglobin/hematocrit: ____________
- Typical O2 saturation at rest: ____________

IN EMERGENCY PLEASE CONTACT ACHD CLINIC:

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

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<tr>
<th>Patient’s Name</th>
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<td>Diagnosis</td>
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<td>Phone</td>
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**In case of medical emergency please contact:**

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Phone: Home</th>
<th>Phone: Work</th>
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**Please transport to the following hospital, if possible:**

- I [ ] do ☐ do not have an advance health care directive. It is at the following location:
My Heart
Other Medical Conditions

_____________________________________________________________________________

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### Current Medications
(Update as needed)

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### Known Allergies

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Current Exercise Recommendations

- Unrestricted
- Avoid competitive sports
- Avoid contact sports
- Avoid heavy lifting
- Gentle exercise only
- Other: ______________________

Reproductive Issues

- Genetic counseling recommended
- STD prevention recommended

Pregnancy Recommendations

- Pregnancy not currently advised
- Planned pregnancy under supervision of ACHD pregnancy center
- Planned pregnancy after consultation with ACHD center

Contraception Recommendations

- Progestin only
- Low dose estrogen/progestin
- Barrier method
- IUD
- Other: ______________________

Other Special Considerations

- Pneumovax and flu shot recommended
- Avoid metal detectors: ___wands ___walk-through
- Supplemental oxygen for air travel recommended
- Avoid sustained elevations over: ______________________
- Other: _________________________________________
General Health Advice

Know Your Heart
Learn your complete diagnosis and how to draw your defect(s) on a heart diagram. Ask questions of your health care team until you understand your condition and special health concerns.

Get the Cardiac Care You Need
Congenital heart defects are very different from “regular” adult heart problems. Those with more complex defects should receive care from a specialist in adult congenital cardiology. This will help ensure that you receive accurate diagnoses and appropriate treatment from those trained in your special needs. For information on how to find adult congenital heart care, visit www.achaheart.org.

See the cardiologist regularly, even if you feel fine. Heart problems can start without symptoms. Early treatment can protect your heart.

Stay Active
Regular exercise can help you stay healthy and feel your best. Most people with congenital heart defects do not need to restrict their physical activity. But it is important that you check with your cardiologist about what is safe. For example, weight lifting can increase the pressure within the heart and should be avoided in many instances. However, at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity a day, such as yoga or walking, is recommended in nearly all cases.
Avoid Endocarditis
Endocarditis (heart infection) happens when bacteria enters the bloodstream and settles in the heart. It is serious and needs prompt treatment. The primary symptom of endocarditis is an unexplained fever for five days or more. **If you develop a fever for which there is no obvious cause, make sure the doctor takes a blood sample to identify the infection before you start any antibiotics.** To help prevent endocarditis, take good care of your teeth, gums, nails, and skin. Ask your cardiologist for instructions on when to use antibiotic protection.

Be Kind to Your Heart
Just like everyone else, adults with heart defects can get acquired heart disease as they age. To help protect your heart, eat a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains and low in saturated fats. Get at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise daily (with cardiologist’s permission). Don’t smoke, abuse drugs, or drink to excess. Control your weight and monitor your cholesterol and blood pressure. Talk to your health care providers about your specific risks for acquired heart disease.

Live Your Life
It’s important to know your risks and limits. But it’s also important to make sure you are not needlessly limiting yourself. Most adults with heart defects have few if any limits on their activities. Talk with your health care team about any questions you have, particularly about life issues such as careers, leisure choices, planning a family, and life expectancy. And don’t be afraid to try new things—adults with heart defects are breaking new barriers every day!
The mission of the American College of Cardiology Foundation is to advocate for quality cardiovascular care through education, research promotion, development and application of standards and guidelines and to influence health care policy. The College has a Member Section dedicated to advancing the needs of congenital heart disease professionals. Please visit www.acc.org for updates on activities and opportunities.

This publication was made possible in part by an unrestricted educational grant from Actelion. We would also like to thank the ACHA Passport Working Group.
The Adult Congenital Heart Association (ACHA) is a national nonprofit committed to improving and prolonging the lives of all heart defect survivors. For more information, or to order additional copies, contact us at info@achaheart.org, (888) 921-ACHA, or visit our website at www.achaheart.org
I HAVE A CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT

Patient's Name

Diagnosis

IN EMERGENCY CONTACT ACHD CARE TEAM:

SEE INSIDE FOR IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

Adult Congenital Heart Association

For more information, contact us at info@achaheart.org, (888) 921-ACHA, or visit our website at www.achaheart.org
In Case of Emergency

Please note I have a Congenital Heart Defect:

- History of rhythm abnormalities – see diagnosis/EKG
- AICD  ❑ Pacemaker  ❑ Artificial valve(s)
- Anticoagulated using: ________  Target INR: ____
- Risk of stroke  ❑ History of stroke
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_________________________________________________________________________

Detach and discard bottom portion. Fold top portion up at dotted line and keep in your wallet in case of emergency.