

Dear Patient,

On June 3, 2021, University of Utah Health's MCS/VAD Program was informed that, effective immediately, Medtronic will no longer make or sell the HeartWare™ LVAD system. According to Medtronic, this is due to concerns over potential neurological adverse events, like stroke, and recent scenarios in which the pump failed to restart during controller exchange in a small number of devices (4 of 1,000 pumps or 0.4%). For more information about this announcement, we encourage you to visit Medtronic's website www.medtronic.com.

Your safety is our top priority and, at this time, we DO NOT recommend elective removal or replacement of HeartWare™ LVAD. Rest assured that patients with existing HeartWare™ LVADs can expect ongoing and long-term support for the life of their LVADs, which is the standard of care for all of our patients. If needed, we will always have enough HVAD equipment available to exchange for your care, including batteries, controllers, chargers, cables and bags.

As a reminder, never disconnect your HVAD pump from two power sources at the same time. Additionally, always have a back-up controller and fully charged spare batteries available. You always have a 24/7 VAD coordinator on-call to address any LVAD related emergencies. Simply call 801-585-5162.

If you have any questions about your LVAD care, please reach out to the LVAD team at vadteam@hsc.utah.edu or call us at 801-585-5122. You can also ask questions at your next clinic appointment.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. We will share more information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,
University of Utah MCS/VAD Program