

## TREATMENT AND PROCEDURE QUESTIONS FOR YOUR SURGEON

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You may have questions for the doctor who will perform your heart valve surgery. This list offers ideas for questions you may want to ask when planning your procedure. Use the space provided for additional questions or notes.

### Before Surgery

- Can I wait to have surgery or do I need it now?
- Can my heart valve be repaired or will I need a full valve replacement?
- What procedure are you planning to do?
- What type of heart valve will I be getting? Why are you choosing this valve?
- What do I need to do to prepare for surgery?
- What should my caregivers do to prepare for my procedure and recovery?
- How long will my valve repair or my new valve last? Will I need another surgery down the road?
- How long will I be away from work?

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### At the Hospital

- How long will the surgery take and how long will I be in the hospital?
- What can I expect to feel like after my surgery? Will it be very painful?
- What are some complications to watch out for following surgery?

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### During Recovery

- What medications will I need to take following my surgery?
- What kinds of things do my family members, caregivers and friends need to be aware of?
- Will my activities be restricted—temporarily or permanently?
- What are the risks for stroke?
- How will this procedure affect my other health conditions and medications?

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