

# Emory Structural Heart and Valve Center's Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) program

**What is TAVR?** The Emory Structural Heart Center offers a minimally invasive treatment option for patients with severe aortic stenosis, a narrowing of the aortic valve opening that affects tens of thousands of people each year. Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) has been performed at our institution since 2007 and to date approximately 1,500 patients have received this life-saving therapy at Emory.

During TAVR, Interventional Cardiologists and Cardiothoracic Surgeons work together to replace the aortic valve with catheters through small incisions either in the groin or chest. This technique is performed without opening the chest as in traditional open heart surgery. This minimally invasive approach allows patients to recover more quickly than open chest procedures, reduces the risk of surgical complications, and allows patients to go home sooner than the traditional surgery.

**Experience Matters.** Emory physicians have performed over 1,500 TAVR procedures, which is more than any other provider in the Southeast. The frequency with which the Emory team performs TAVR procedures allows for a high level of proficiency, resulting in positive patient outcomes that are unmatched by any other provider in the state of Georgia.

**Procedure Pioneers.** Emory was the first center in the Southeast and one of the first in the United States to perform this procedure in 2007 and was one of the largest enrolling centers in the country for the pivotal PARTNER I & PARTNER II clinical trials. For the first time in the United States, TAVR therapy will be available to patients of low surgical risk for standard surgery within the PARTNER III trial at the Emory Structural Heart Department.

**Creating next-generation treatments.** Emory is a nationally recognized academic center of excellence and offers a vast array of novel technologies and treatment options through FDA approved transcatheter therapies as well as clinical trials. Emory is proudly enrolling in the PARTNER III clinical trial to offer TAVR to low risk surgical patients through a randomized study.

TAVR technology has offered options to patients who were previously told they had no choice but to succumb to their deadly disease. At Emory this state-of-the-art therapy is being offered to patients of high, intermediate, and even low surgical risk. Contact us today to see if TAVR might be right for you or a loved one.

### **EMORY Program Highlights.**

- The Emory TAVR program began in 2007 and to date approximately **1,500 patients have received this groundbreaking therapy at Emory with excellent outcomes.**
- Emory has access to not only FDA approved transcatheter valves but also offers extended indications for patients within **clinical trials** when applicable.
- Over 500 patients have received transfemoral TAVR via the Minimalist Approach using **conscious sedation.** For appropriate patients TAVR can safely be conducted without general anesthesia, transesophageal echo, or a ventilator.
- Straightforward Minimalist Approach TAVR **patients recover on the cardiac telemetry floor as opposed to the ICU.**
- Emory's vast experience allows for **decreased length of stay in the hospital.**

**To schedule a new patient TAVR evaluation for treatment of severe aortic stenosis, call 404-778-7777.**