**Do’s and the Don’ts**

Do have your backup controller and charged batteries with you at all times.

Do protect your controller and batteries from dropping at all times.

Do record your VAD #s daily and call office if power increases or decreases greater than 2 watts from your baseline consistently (more than 10 minutes) or if you experience low flow alarms.

Do call the VAD clinic if you have a yellow wrench alarm as we will need to schedule you for a clinic visit to check the controller.

Do call the VAD clinic if you find yourself in need of care in an emergency room.

* Do bring your MPU, UBC, batteries and backup controller with you to the emergency room or if our office calls you with instructions to come to SMH for admission.

Do clean your VAD equipment as instructed to ensure your equipment performs as intended.

Do inspect your equipment on a regular basis for damage and report damaged equipment to the VAD team.

Do call the VAD clinic if you experience any signs of driveline infection, dark colored urine, bleeding (dark/tarry stools, prolonged nose bleeds), or neurological changes (blurry vision, numbness/tingling, slurred speech, worsening headache).

Do charge your backup controller on a monthly basis, but only on weekdays during business hours (in case you ever have an issue).

Do consider using the UR Medicine MyChart electronic medical record to view lab results and communicate **non-urgent concerns** with the VAD team.

**DON’Ts**

Don’t charge your back-up controller on the weekend or during evening hours (after 430 PM).

Don’t leave the house without your backup equipment.

Don’t attempt to repair LVAD equipment yourself.

Don’t call the inpatient hospital units at SMH for advice regarding your VAD care when you are at home. While the unit clinicians have been an integral part of your hospitalization, they are not familiar with processes for outpatient management. *Please call 585-273-3760* for any issues while at home.

***Please be sure to place your discharge paperwork in this binder and bring binder to your first clinic visit.***

***We look forward to joining you on your journey with the LVAD.***