

Mitral Valve Prolapse

What is it?

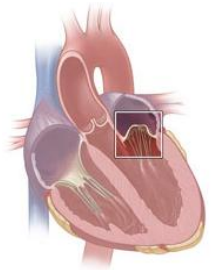
- **Mitral Valve Prolapse**— a heart problem in which the valve that separates the lower and upper chambers of the left side of the heart does not close properly; some are inherited, associates with Graves disease, affects thin women with minor chest wall deformities, scoliosis; some connective tissue disorders as Marfan syndrome, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, polycystic kidney disease or osteogenesis imperfecta



- **Replacement**- may be needed if the left ventricle of the heart is enlarges, heart function gets worse, or may have no symptoms
- **Antibiotics**- have been given before surgery or dental procedures to prevent bacterial endocarditis/BE; the AHA/American Heart Association no longer recommends antibiotics unless BE in the past
- **Mitral Valve**- helps the blood on the left side of the heart flow in one direction, it closes to keep blood from flowing backwards when the heart contracts/beats
 - **Mitral Valve Regurgitation**- causes blood to leak backwards, may need to be treated with medications or surgery
 - **Mitral Valves**- that are structurally abnormal can increase the risk for a bacterial infection

Signs and Symptoms:

- **Symptoms**- often no symptoms, sensation of feeling the heart beat/palpitations, chest pain, fatigue, difficult breathing, cough, shortness of breath when lying flat/orthopnea; headache, angina, dizziness, fever



Facts:

- **Medications for Mitral Regurgitation or Heart Problems**- blood thinners/ anticoagulants, propranolol, water pills/diuretics, vasodilators, or anti-arrhythmic medications

What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- to diagnose mitral valve prolapsed
 - **Tests**- CT scan of the chest, chest MRI, ECG, chest x-ray, echocardiogram, color-flow Doppler examination, cardiac catheterization

