

# Ventricular Assist Devices

## History

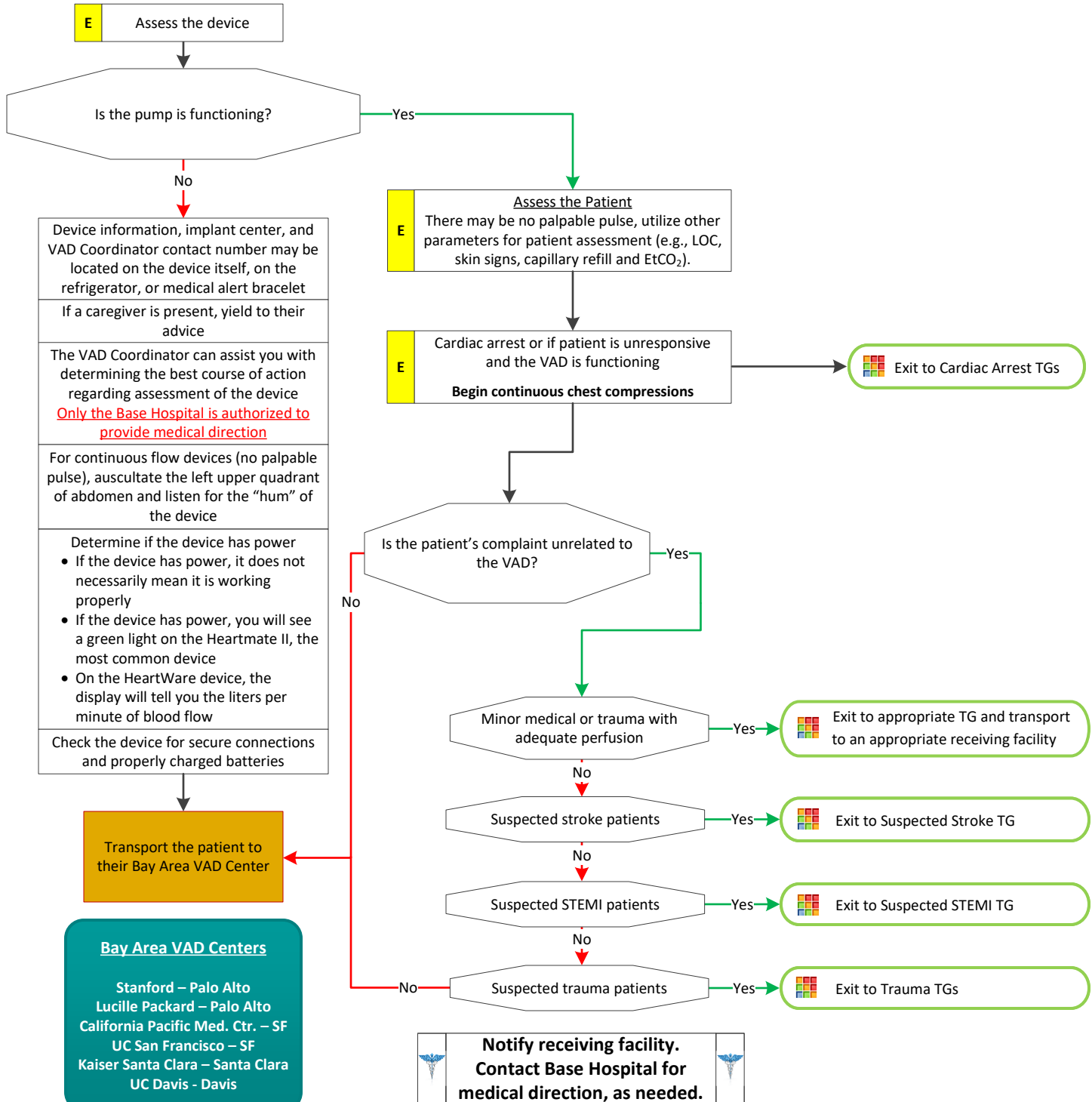
- Dispatch information about VAD at the location
- VAD Patient
- DNR/POLST

## Signs and Symptoms

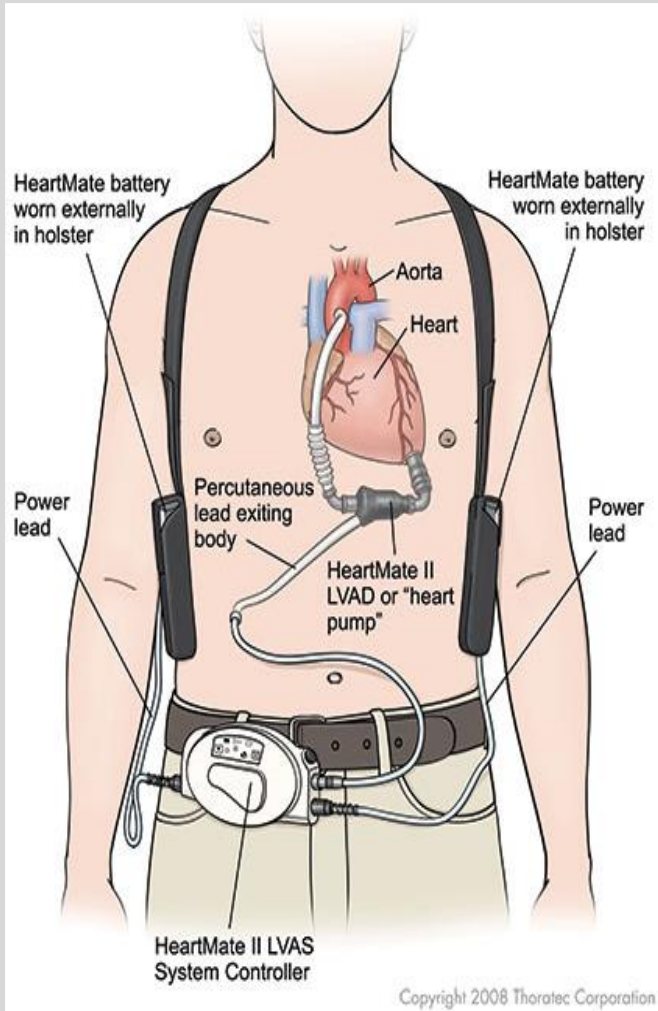
- VAD patient with:
  - Signs of shock
  - Difficulty breathing
  - In cardiac arrest

## Differential

- Device failure
- Asymptomatic dysrhythmias



# Ventricular Assist Devices



VAD CENTER	24-HOUR HOTLINE
Stanford Hospital	(650) 723-6661
Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford*	
California Pacific Medical Center	(415) 232-6057
UC San Francisco	(415) 443-5823
Kaiser Santa Clara	(408) 318-2387
UC Davis	(916) 734-2020
*Stanford Hospital and Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford share the same VAD Coordinators	

General Treatment Guidelines

## Pearls

- Patients may be cardioverted or defibrillated if symptomatic, but asymptomatic dysrhythmias do not require treatment.
- Consider contacting the Base Hospital if there are questions concerning destination choices.
- If possible, the patient's family member or caregiver should accompany the patient in the ambulance, and all related VAD equipment, including spare batteries, should also be transported with the patient.
- In arrest situations, a POLST/DNR or advanced directive may be available. Many VAD patients have made end of life care decisions.

