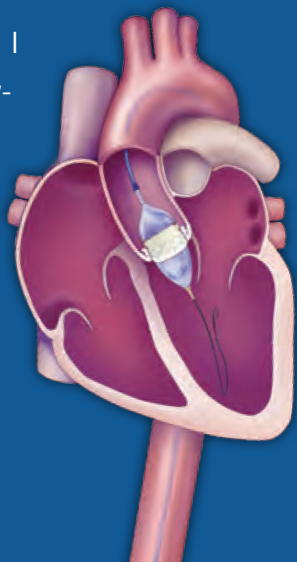


## Questions to Ask Your Doctor...

- Am I a candidate for transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR)?
- What tests do I need?
- How soon will I need treatment?
- What are the risks associated with not having my aortic valve replaced?
- How long will I be in the hospital for TAVR vs. open-heart surgery?
- What will the recovery be like for TAVR vs. open-heart surgery?
- What restrictions and/or medications, if any, would I be on after the procedure for TAVR vs. open-heart surgery?
- How frequently will I need to have follow-up visits for TAVR vs open-heart surgery?



Rockledge Regional Medical Center's medical staff includes skilled, board certified physicians representing a wide range of medical specialties.

You'll find the desire to help others in the hearts and minds of our caring and experienced nurses, medical technicians, and support staff.

At Rockledge Regional Medical Center, we provide exceptional healthcare and support through quality service to all.



For more information about TAVR, please visit [rockledgeregional.org](http://rockledgeregional.org) or call 321-637-2238.

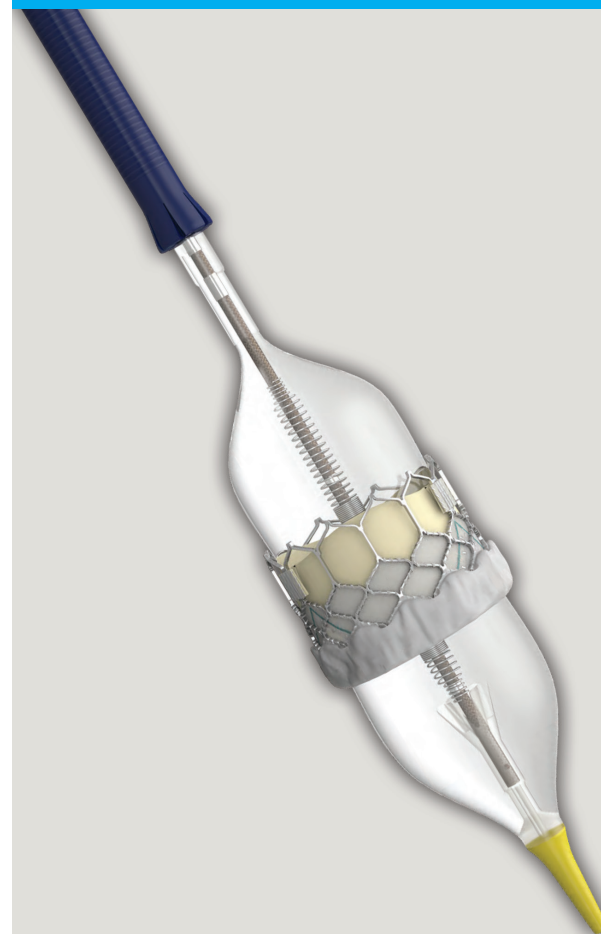
 **HEART AND VASCULAR INSTITUTE**  
Rockledge Regional Medical Center

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## WHAT IS TAVR?

### Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement



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## WHAT IS AORTIC STENOSIS?

Very simply, aortic stenosis is a build-up of calcium deposits on the valve, which causes it to narrow and reduce blood flow to the rest of your body. Aortic stenosis is a progressive disease which means it gets worse over time. If you have been diagnosed with aortic stenosis and are experiencing symptoms you may be a candidate for TAVR.

## What are the Symptoms of Aortic Stenosis?

- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Difficulty walking short distances
- Lightheadedness, dizziness, and fainting
- Swollen ankles and feet
- Rapid heartbeat
- Chest pain
- No longer taking part in physical activities you used to enjoy

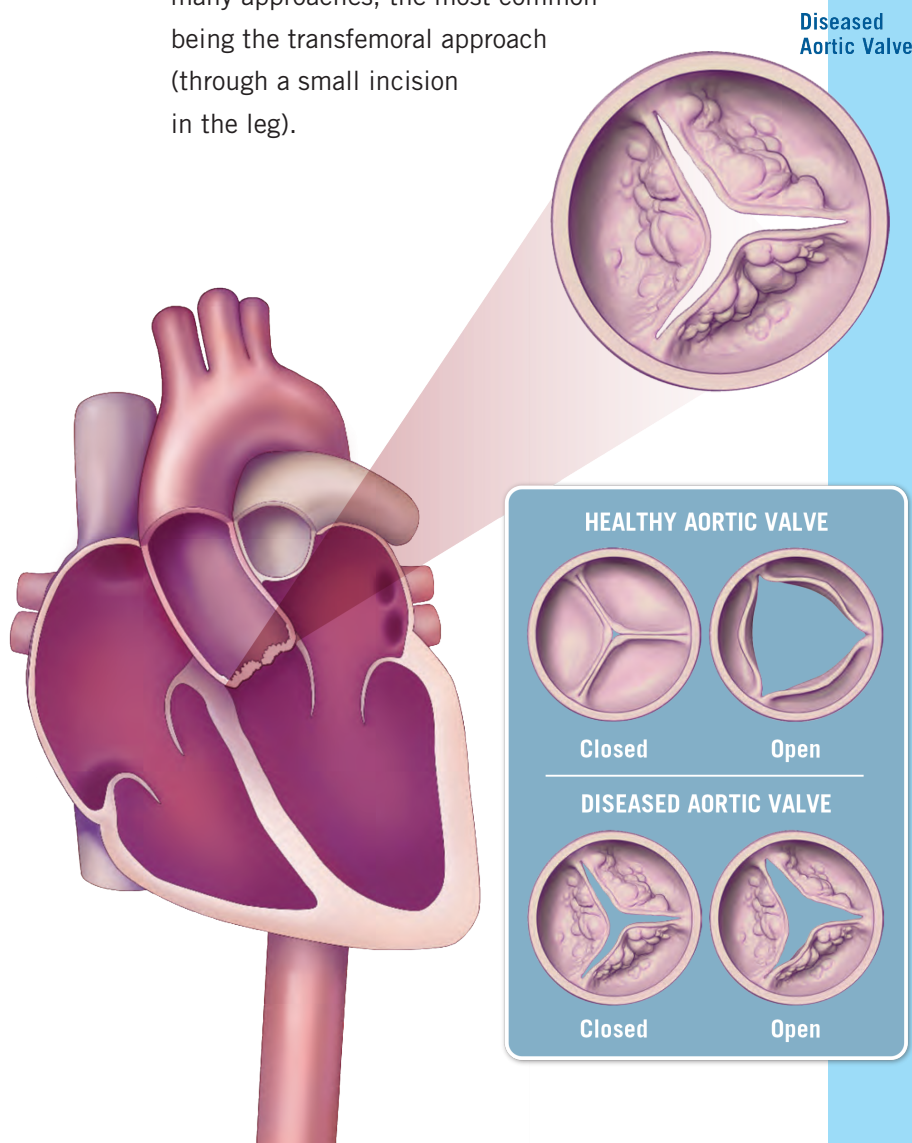


<sup>1</sup>Otto CM. Timing of aortic valve surgery. Heart. 2000;84:211-21

## What is TAVR?

### Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement

TAVR is a less invasive procedure than open-heart surgery. It allows a new valve to be inserted within the native, diseased aortic valve. The TAVR procedure can be performed using one of many approaches, the most common being the transfemoral approach (through a small incision in the leg).



## What are the Benefits of TAVR?

- Less invasive, with minimal scarring
- Shorter hospital stay
- Shorter recovery time to getting back to everyday activities
- Less pain and anxiety
  - Improved quality of life
  - Relief of symptoms

When you choose Rockledge Regional Medical Center for your TAVR you are choosing world class care. Our Structural Heart Coordinator, Michelle Reed, RN, will be with you every step of the way from diagnosis, to testing, through surgery and well after you go home.



**Michelle Reed, RN**  
Structural Heart Coordinator  
321-637-2238  
Michelle.Reed2@steward.org

**Rockledge Regional Medical Center**

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