



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Central Virginia VA Health Care System
1201 Broad Rock Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23249

August 17, 2023

In Reply Refer To: 652/00

[Veteran and Address]

Dear [Veteran]:

The Central Virginia VA Health Care System will temporarily pause cardiac transplant surgeries effective August 15, 2023, to approximately mid-September (30-45 days). The purpose of the pause is to enable the program to comprehensively evaluate its current practices, identify potential areas for improvement and implement identified changes to elevate patient care and operational efficiency. While we cannot receive heart donations or perform transplant surgeries during this short period, you will remain on the waitlist with your United Network for Organ Sharing accrued time preserved.

During this pause you have two options to consider: (1) You can wait for the program to resume or (2) you can register your transplant care at another VA-approved community transplant hospital. It is important to make your decision based on your personal circumstances, preferences, and medical needs. If you choose to register at another transplant program, they will conduct an evaluation to confirm your suitability for registration.

Our dedicated Transplant Coordinator, Andrea Amorese, RN, is here to support you every step of the way. She will closely monitor your health, keep you informed of the pause status, and create a personalized care plan that meets your unique needs. We understand that this pause may be overwhelming, which is why we offer additional support services to help alleviate any anxiety or uncertainty you may be experiencing. Rest assured, we work closely with the United Network for Organ Sharing to ensure the utmost safety and success of the entire process.

Our Heart Transplant Team can be reached at (804) 675-5635 for any further questions or information. Thank you for your patience during this time.

Sincerely,

J. Ronald Johnson, FACHE
Executive Director