For more information about our program and our surgeons, please call (941) 798-2121.
Mitral Regurgitation

Mitral regurgitation is the leaking of blood from the left ventricle across the mitral valve, and into the left atrium. The flow of blood pumped by the heart is controlled by one-way valves. These valves assure that blood moves in only one direction. When the mitral valve leaks, some of the blood that should be pumped into the body instead goes backward into the lung. If the amount of blood that leaks is severe, mitral regurgitation can be a serious condition that requires care from your doctor. The sooner it is treated, the more favorable the outcome. Your cardiologist can help you determine the optimal time and method for your treatment.

Repair vs. Replacement

There are several treatment options available for a leaky valve including mechanical replacement, bio-prosthetic replacement, and repair. Emerging research indicates there are significant advantages to saving the natural valve with a repair procedure whenever possible.

A successfully repaired valve:
- Returns the patient to a normal life expectancy.
- Usually lasts a lifetime. (Pig or cow valves must be replaced again in 10-15 years requiring a high risk re-operation.)
- Does not require the use of a blood thinner, like Coumadin. (Mechanical valve replacements require the life-long use of Coumadin.)

Why choose the West Florida Mitral Repair Center at Blake Medical Center?

Quality & Convenience

Our highly skilled team offers the complete continuum of care for mitral valve patients, close to home. Since 2007 to date, our program had a 98% repair (less than 2% replacement), far exceeding national averages of 60%.

Our Mission is to provide comprehensive cardiac care services with our highly skilled team of professionals--dedicated to the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of heart disease.

Our skilled multi-disciplinary team includes:
- Cardiologists
- Cardiac Surgeons
- Cardiac Nurses
- Cardiovascular Surgical Team
- Physician’s Assistants
- Anesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Laboratory Technicians
- Nationally Certified Critical Care & Cardiovascular Operating Room Nurses
- Pharmacists
- ECHO Cardiographers
- Infection Control Specialists
- Emergency Staff
- Respiratory Therapists
- Quality Specialists
- Radiologists
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Professionals

Awards & Recognition

Our Cardiac program is recognized for its outstanding achievements in the care of cardiac patients.
- Top 100 Cardiovascular Hospital, Thomson Reuters
- Accredited Chest Pain Center with PCI, Society of Chest Pain Centers
- AMI Accreditation, Disease Specific Certification by the Joint Commission
- Blue Distinction for Cardiac Care, Blue Cross Blue Shield