



NOTES:

- LVADs **do not generally produce a palpable pulse in the patient.** Assess for other signs of adequate perfusion (alert, warm skin, capillary refill).
- Blood pressures in LVAD patients may be very difficult to detect. ***This is normal for the device!***
 - When attempting to obtain a blood pressure, you may only hear one change in sound. This is the mean pressure and should be 60 – 90 mm Hg. Document this as the systolic BP.
- ***Unless the patient requires treatment for major trauma or burns, the closest appropriate facility is the patient's cardiac hospital, regardless of diversion status. If the patient receives cardiac care outside the Milwaukee area, the default receiving hospitals are St. Luke's – Main Campus or Froedtert for adults, CHW for pediatric patients.*** Be sure to inform the receiving hospital the patient en route has a LVAD.