

**ADVANCED HEART FAILURE,
CARDIAC TRANSPLANTATION AND
MECHANICAL CIRCULATORY SUPPORT**



Aaron Duckett
Heart Transplant
Patient



VANDERBILT HEART



Aaron's Story

For Aaron Duckett, the journey to Nashville was an unexpected one. He lived an active life in Maryland as a retired school counselor, musician and golfer. But a routine visit to the doctor uncovered significant heart damage caused by a rare disease, amyloidosis. As his condition worsened, Aaron's care team in Washington D.C. reached out to leading experts in amyloidosis across the country. He was ultimately transferred to Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he received a heart transplant and ongoing treatment for his condition.

"It's a marathon," Duckett said, "But I couldn't be in a better place." His journey has required ongoing chemotherapy, rehabilitation and determination...but he continues to work on what he describes as "Duckett 2.0." He is now exercising 5-6 days a week and able to walk over 2 miles, getting him that much closer to his goal of returning to the drums, the golf course and his life before transplant.

You want the best for your patients.
You've come to the right place.



At Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institute, we provide a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to patients with advanced heart failure, including the evaluation of a patient's candidacy for heart transplantation or mechanical circulatory support. Our team's experience and commitment to quality have made us a world leader in cardiovascular care.

When you partner with us, you remain an essential part of your patient's care. This collaboration becomes a conduit for the kind of communication necessary to provide your patients and their families with the personalized, compassionate care and comfort they deserve.

Programs

ADVANCED HEART FAILURE

With a team of experts trained in advanced heart failure, Vanderbilt seeks to improve quality of life and survival for patients in all stages of heart failure, whatever the etiology. In addition to providing care for a large population of patients with ischemic and idiopathic cardiomyopathies, we specialize in treatment of amyloid heart disease, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and other inherited heart disease, cardiac sarcoidosis, adult congenital heart disease and other disease processes for which experience and tailored treatments are critical to patient outcomes.

MECHANICAL CIRCULATORY SUPPORT

Vanderbilt offers mechanical circulatory support options for patients awaiting heart transplant as well as those for whom transplant is not an option. With more than 500 left ventricular assist devices implanted, we are one of the most experienced programs in the nation, with access to an ever-expanding inventory of the world's most sophisticated mechanical assist devices.

CARDIAC TRANSPLANTATION

Since 1985, Vanderbilt has assisted referring physicians in providing quality care to more than 1,000 adult heart transplant patients. **In 2021 alone, our team performed 141 heart transplants, ranking us the highest volume transplant program in the world.** For select patients with multi-system organ dysfunction, we offer dual-organ transplantation, including heart-kidney, heart-liver and heart-lung. We are also one of only five programs to formally collaborate with the Veterans Administration to provide heart transplantation to our country's veterans.

As the world's busiest heart transplant program, our team feels an obligation to advance the field of transplantation through innovation, research and technology. We are actively involved in delivering novel approaches that allow our program to serve more patients, including high-risk patients, who may not be candidates for transplantation at other medical centers.

"The rapid growth of our transplant program in recent years reflects our commitment to innovative, multidisciplinary patient care, including for many individuals who may not be candidates at other centers. Key to our program's success has been collaboration with the many thoughtful referring providers who send these patients our way."

Kelly Schlendorf, MD

Section Chief of Heart Failure, Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support

2021 Achievements

Here are highlights of our team's achievements and ongoing advances in heart transplantation:

- Largest heart transplant center in the world by volume
- World's largest single-center experience in transplantation of hearts from hepatitis C-infected donors; expanding the donor pool has significantly reduced expected wait times for many patients (recipients who become infected with hepatitis C are treated with antiviral medication, with a 100% cure rate)
- Ex vivo perfusion to preserve and recover donor hearts expands the donor pool by allowing us to consider transplanting hearts that may otherwise be discarded
- One of only a handful of medical centers offering transplantation to patients with complex adult congenital heart disease, including single-ventricle, Fontan-palliated anatomy
- Participation in clinical trials investigating donation after cardiac death (DCD) hearts as yet another strategy to safely expand the donor pool
- Ability to perform multi-visceral transplants, including heart-kidney, heart-liver and heart-lung
- Transplant Patient and Family Advisory Board voices are instrumental in inspiring ongoing programmatic improvements at all stages of the transplantation process



Sarah Johnson
Heart Transplant Patient

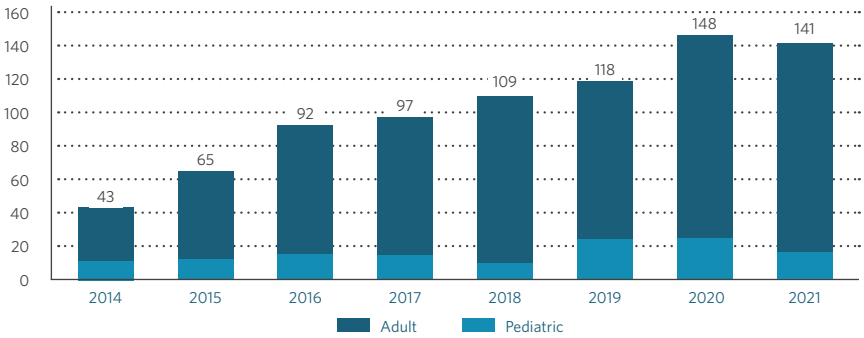
Sarah Johnson was just a normal kid when her pediatrician heard something odd on the stethoscope during a routine check-up. At age 14, her world changed when she was diagnosed with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, forcing her to quit the dance team and the other athletic activities she enjoyed before any noticeable symptoms ever presented.

But the condition progressed quickly and required multiple surgeries during her high school years, ultimately resulting in a heart transplant at age 19. "You really don't realize how bad it is until you feel better," Johnson said. "Now, I don't have to take naps or worry about my heart rate going up. My migraines even went away after surgery."

The experience has fueled her interest in helping others through a career in nursing, though she admits that she has likely had enough cardiac nursing to last a lifetime. Sarah has completed her first semester of nursing school, with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner.

Total Heart Transplant Volumes

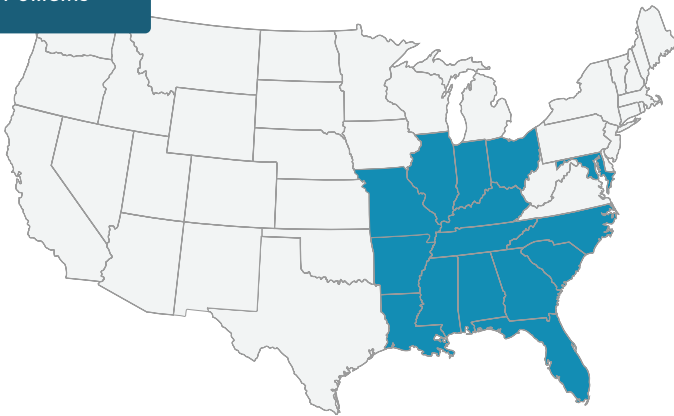
2014 - 2021



Patient Origins and Heart Recovery Locations

Vanderbilt cares for patients across the state of Tennessee and far outside of Tennessee, as well. Our surgical teams recover hearts from across the United States.

PATIENT ORIGINS
(2021)



HEART RECOVERY LOCATIONS
(JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021)



Our Dedicated Team

Vanderbilt is ranked # 1 in Tennessee for heart care by *U.S. News & World Report*, and our team leads the region in treating advanced heart failure. We strive to provide the highest quality referral service to assist you in managing your patients' complicated needs. We know that optimal treatment of heart disease requires expertise from experienced providers and effective communication with referring physicians.

ADVANCED HEART FAILURE/TRANSPLANT CARDIOLOGISTS



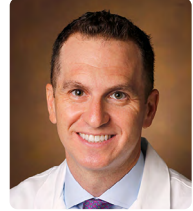
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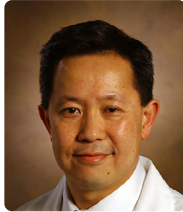
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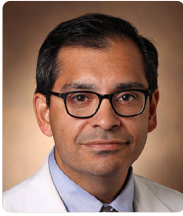


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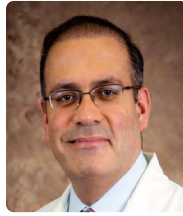


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Samantha White, MSN, AGPCNP-BC, CCRN

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Kimberly Sensing, LPN

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Maura Webb, LCSW
(Transplant Social Worker)

"The size and scope of our program allow us to offer heart transplants to increasingly complex patients. But it also creates new insights about the failing heart, which in turn helps us take care of all patients. I sincerely believe Vanderbilt is building the future of heart transplantation today."

Ashish S. Shah, MD

*Chairman, Department of Cardiac Surgery
Surgical Director, Heart Transplant Program*

Our Referral Process

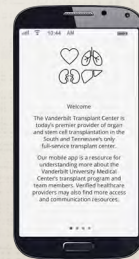
Early referral for advanced heart failure therapies, including ventricular assist devices and heart transplantation, is key for optimizing postsurgical outcomes — most significantly survival and quality of life — and avoiding increased risks for patients. We advise physicians to consider referral if a patient has experienced significant or progressive functional decline, recurring heart failure hospitalizations or is not tolerating optimization of medical therapy. We strive to see all new referrals within two weeks of referral receipt. If you feel that your patient's needs warrant an urgent visit, please contact our medical or surgical directors by email or phone.

TO MAKE AN ADULT HEART TRANSPLANT OR LVAD REFERRAL

- Fax Patient Face Sheet and medical records to 615-936-3829, or
- Visit us at VanderbiltTransplant.com for easy online referrals, or
- Call 615-936-3500 to make a referral by phone

IMPROVING ACCESS

Our mobile app provides direct contact with our physicians and access to our on-call physicians for urgent transfers and other urgent needs regarding a transplant patient. Download the VUMC Transplant app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.



Cardiac Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support

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