

WHAT TO EXPECT: Chemoembolization



FIS Evaluation Clinic Located at TGH

All patients are first evaluated at our outpatient clinic at Tampa General Hospital (TGH) in the Harborside Building located at 5 Tampa General Circle, 8th Floor, Suite 820, Tampa, FL 33606. We are in the same office as FACT (Florida Advanced Cardiothoracic Surgery). Valet parking is offered in front of the Harborside Building and self-parking is always available in the parking garage. **(See Map on Page 3)**

What to Bring to Your Evaluation

On the day of your evaluation, please bring all of your imaging (CT/MRI/xrays) and blood tests results if they were not performed at TGH. We prefer imaging on CDs for our later review. If you are seeing an oncologist or liver specialist, please request that they fax your records to our office at (813) 844-4032 prior to your evaluation. **If we do not receive your medical records prior to or on the day of your appointment we will have to reschedule.**

Evaluation Appointment

During your evaluation appointment we will review your imaging, medical history, and overall health. We will discuss the risks and benefits of the procedure and the expected post-operative course and follow-up. Depending on your tumor type we may refer you to the Liver Transplant team at TGH for further treatment after the Chemoembolization. Prior to leaving the office you will be scheduled for your procedure. If for some reason we cannot schedule you at that time, the scheduler will call you soon after your evaluation to schedule your procedure. Please remember that all Chemoembolization patients are admitted for one night after the procedure to treat any pain or nausea.

FIS Procedure Clinic Located at TGH

Our Procedure Clinic Registration is also located at TGH in the Bayshore Pavilion Area K, take elevators to the 3rd floor and precede to the 3K Registration Desk. Valet parking is offered for a small fee on the day of your procedure in front of the Main Entrance and self-parking is always available in the parking garage. **(See Map on Page 3)**

Preparation for the Day of Your Procedure

We ask that you DO NOT eat anything after midnight on the night prior to your procedure or at least 6 hours prior to your procedure. Eating breakfast will force us to delay your procedure as we cannot give you anesthesia safely if you have eaten within 6 hours. **We ask all patients to arrive two hours prior to their scheduled procedure and report to the 3rd floor of the Bayshore Pavilion.** Again our procedure clinic is in the Bayshore Pavilion and after you are registered on the 3rd floor, you will be directed to a private preoperative room. Blood tests are performed as soon as you arrive to assure you are well enough to undergo the procedure.

Evaluation Clinic Location: 5 Tampa General Circle, 8th Floor, Suite 820, Tampa, FL 33606

Procedure Clinic Location: 1 Tampa General Circle, 3rd Floor, 3K Registration, Tampa, FL 33606

Scheduling (813) 844-4570

After Hours (813) 681-0464

Fax (813) 844-4032

Medications Administered

Prior to your procedure you will be pretreated with nausea and pain medication. During the procedure these medications are given as well as “conscious sedation”, otherwise known as “twilight sedation.” We do not typically utilize general anesthesia as we require patients to hold their breath at times throughout the procedure to allow us to visualize the tumors under x-ray.

Chemoembolization Procedure

The chemoembolization procedure is performed through the right common femoral artery and there is typically little pain after access is gained into the vessel. After the procedure you will receive additional pain and nausea medication and transferred to our post-operative care area. Once in your post-operative room, you will be asked to lie flat for 3-6 hours to allow the hole in the artery to seal and avoid bleeding under the skin.

Post Procedure

For the first 12 hours post procedure patients often have “post-embolization” symptoms which include mild fever, nausea, fatigue, and vague pain over the liver in the right upper abdomen. These symptoms are due to cutting off the blood supply to the tumor. The morning following the procedure, most patients have minimal pain and are discharged home with light pain medication.

Follow-up Appointment

Your follow-up appointment after the Chemoembolization is typically scheduled between 4-6 weeks after and often scheduled immediately after you have an MRI/CT and blood tests at TGH. These tests allow us to determine the amount of remaining tumor and evaluate how your liver tolerated the treatment. During the clinic visit we will review the results with you and schedule an additional follow-up depending on the outcome of your procedure.

Many patients receive 2-3 chemoembolizations to control their tumors completely. Some will receive treatments every 6 months for several years to keep the tumor under control and prevent spread. Factors including the tumor type, tumor size, liver disease and number of tumors often determine how many chemoembolizations are required to control a patient’s tumors.

***See Next Page for a Map of TGH**

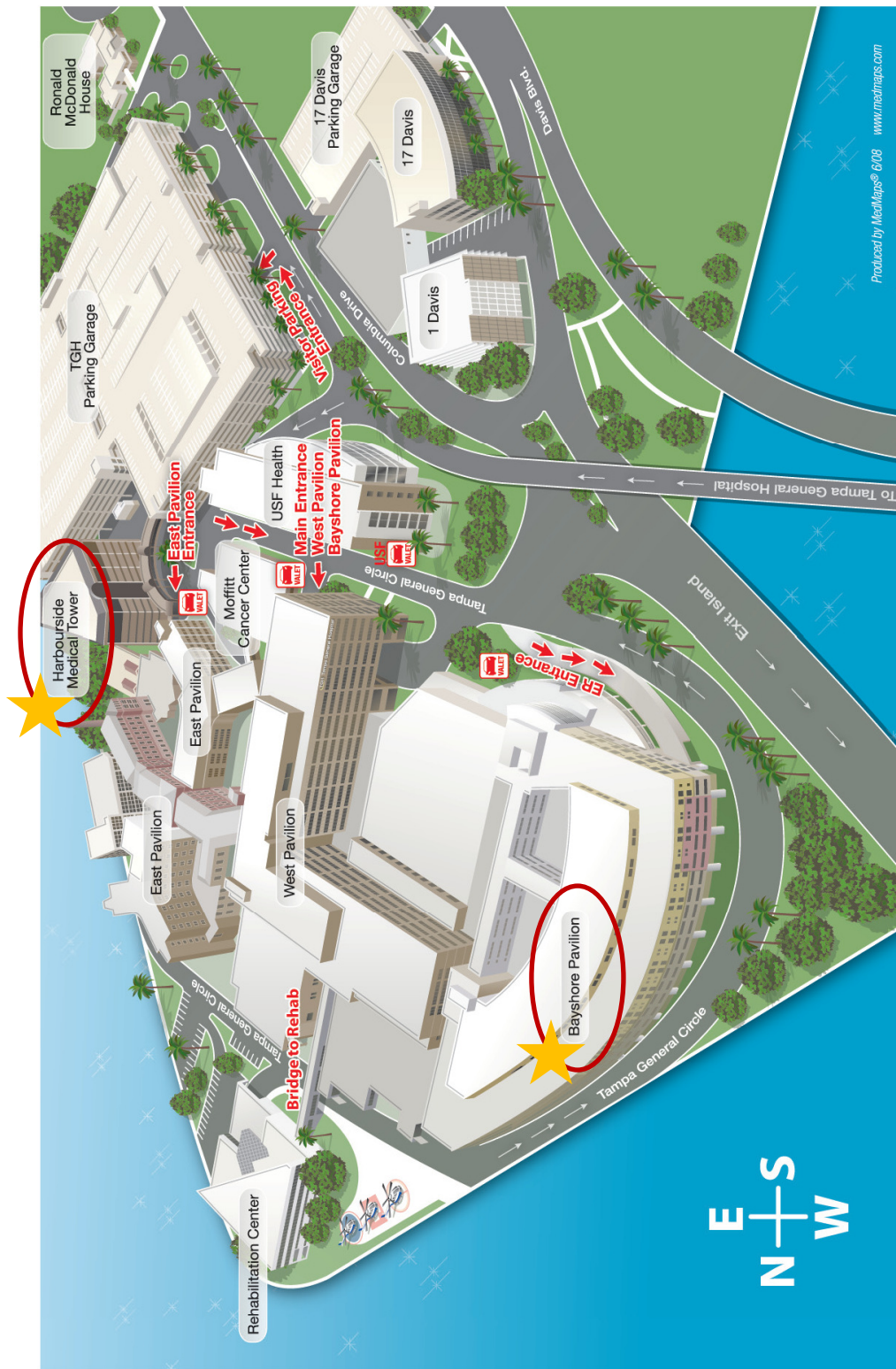
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Main Switchboard (813) 844-7000
Patient Information (813) 844-7443
PhysicianFinder Referral Service 1-800-822-DOCS
Web site www.tgh.org

1 Tampa General Circle • Tampa, FL 33606

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