WHAT TO EXPECT: TIPS





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 currently under the care of a hepatologist (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 the clinic visit 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. If you have not had a recent CT or MRI of the liver, we may schedule one prior to the procedure to assure the veins in the liver are patent. 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 TIPS patients are admitted for one night in the hospital after the procedure to treat any nausea and assure there are no complications.

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.

Medications Administered

Prior to your procedure you will be pretreated with nausea and pain medication. The TIPS procedure is performed under general anesthesia, which avoids any pain or movement during placement.

TIPS Procedure

The procedure is performed through a tiny incision on the neck through the right internal jugular vein.

Post Procedure

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 2-4 hours to allow the hole in the vein to seal and avoid bleeding under the skin.

Follow-up Appointment

The follow-up appointment after the TIPS is typically between 4-6 weeks. Our follow-up clinic appointments are often scheduled immediately after you have an Ultrasound and blood tests at TGH. These tests allow us to assure the TIPS is fully opened and your liver is tolerating the redirected blood flow. During the clinic visit we will review the results with you and schedule additional follow-up depending on the outcome of your procedure.

*See Next Page for a Map of TGH

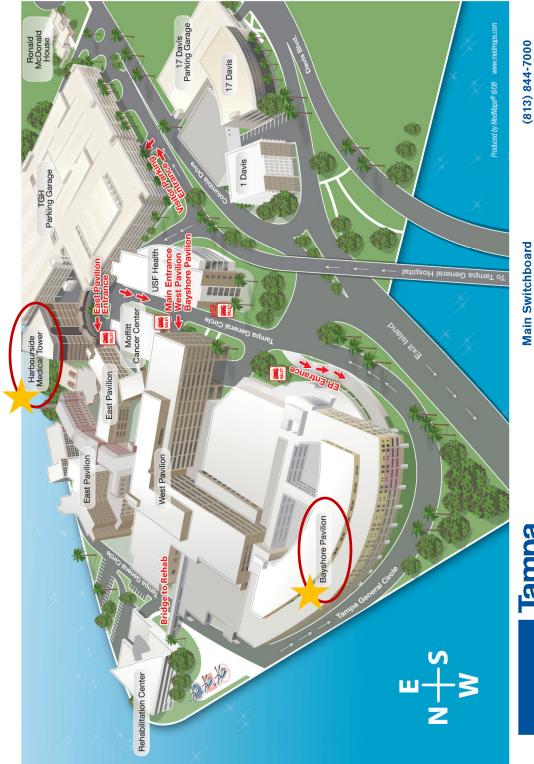
1-800-822-DOCS (813) 844-7443

PhysicianFinder Referral Service

Web site

Patient Information

www.tgh.org





1 Tampa General Circle • Tampa, FL 33606