

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- 1. Please arrive at Cardiac Rehabilitation **no earlier than 10 minutes** before your scheduled time.
- 2. Plan to be at Cardiac Rehabilitation approximately 1 hour when you exercise which includes a 5-10 minute warm-up and cool-down.
- 3. Please call and cancel your appointment if you are unable to attend your exercise session. If scheduling permits, accommodations will be made for individuals.
- 4. Please eat a light meal 1-1 ¹/₂ hour before you exercise. This is especially important if you have worked all night and have an early AM session.
- 5. Proper clothing and footwear are recommended during exercise:
 - Rubber soled shoes with laces or velcro
 - Comfortable pants or shorts
 - Breathable cotton or cotton blend fabrics (no nylon, polyester or acetate)
- 6. If prescribed, **always** carry your nitroglycerin with you.
- 7. During exercise sessions, **please notify us immediately** if you are having any cardiac symptoms: chest pain, pressure, dizziness, or shortness of breath. If symptoms are noted at home, please notify your physician or call 911.
- 8. **Before** initiating exercise outside of cardiac rehab, **please discuss** it with the staff.
- 9. Take your medicine before you come to exercise. It is important to **notify us** prior to exercise if you have forgotten any medication doses.
- 10. Inform the staff of **any change** in medications or tests ordered by your physician. This may include: stress tests, Thallium or Cardiolyte test, etc...
- 11. Smoking and the use of any caffeine products may stimulate your heart to beat faster and raise your blood pressure. We recommend that you **DO NOT SMOKE AND DO NOT USE CAFFEINE**.
- 12. To obtain **maximum benefit** from Cardiac Rehabilitation, you should commit yourself to exercising **3 times a week**.