



## Your Heart Surgery Team

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## Heart Surgery

# Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG)





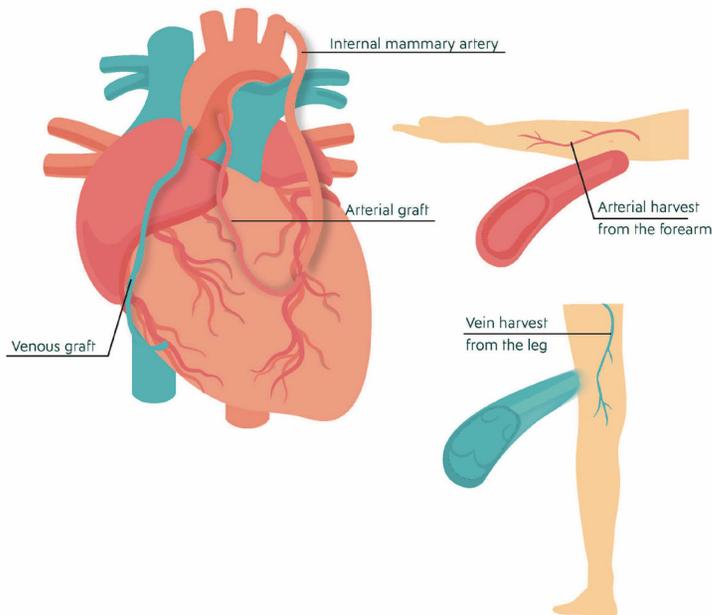
## What is a CABG?

Coronary artery bypass surgery is one method used to restore normal blood flow to an obstructed coronary artery. Obstruction develops from plaque build up of calcium, cholesterol or lipids. Too much build up causes your arterial walls to thicken, lose elasticity, or harden. Bypass surgery creates a new pathway around the blocked coronary artery. We attach the healthy vessel to the coronary artery beyond the blockage. This allows the blood to flow through the healthy vessel, bypassing the blocked part of the artery entirely.



## Where do you get the vessel from?

Our team harvests a healthy vein or artery from another part of your body to use in surgery. The healthy vessel may be an internal mammary artery from your chest (LIMA or RIMA), radial artery from your arm (typically left), or saphenous vein from your leg. Pre op testing will determine which vessel is most appropriate for our team to use.



## Surgery: Facts vs. Fiction



**I am not breathing during bypass surgery.**

### Fiction

- Your lung function is managed by a heart & lung bypass machine. This machine is managed by a highly trained Perfusionist who ensures the proper amount of oxygen is getting to your blood.



**My heart is not beating during bypass surgery.**

### Fact

- Your heart function is also managed by the heart & lung bypass machine. This machine is managed by a highly trained Perfusionist who manages your blood pressure, stops and restarts your heart.



**Bypass Surgery will improve my quality of life.**

### Fact

Benefits of surgery include:

- Improved heart function
- Reduced symptoms of heart failure

## Is there risk with having surgery?

All surgeries come with risk but our experienced team does everything to ensure the benefits outweigh the risks. Risks may include but are not limited to:

- Stroke
- Renal Failure
- Respiratory Failure
- Severe Blood Loss

