

WHAT TO EXPECT: Inferior Vena Cava (IVC) Filter



IVC Filter Evaluation

Patients referred for an IVC filter are scheduled directly from the Interventional Radiology scheduling office, (813) 844-4046. As these devices are used commonly in patients with blood clots that cannot receive anticoagulation or in patients at high risk for PE, we do not require patients to undergo evaluation at our clinic. Instead, patients receive a full evaluation on the day of their scheduled procedure.

FIS Procedure Clinic Located at TGH

Our Procedure Clinic Registration is also located at TGH in the Bayshore Pavilion located at 1 Tampa General Circle, Area K, 3rd Floor, Tampa, FL 33606. Once in the Bayshore Pavillion 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. During the procedure these medications are given as well as “conscious sedation”, otherwise known as “twilight sedation”.

DVT Procedure

The filter placement procedure is performed through the right common femoral vein or the right internal jugular vein and there is typically little pain after access is gained into the vessel. Placement of the filter takes only 15-20 minutes.

Post Procedure

After the filter has been placed you will be transferred back to your room and you will be asked to lie flat for 1-2 hours to allow the hole in the vein to seal and avoid bleeding under the skin. Most patients have no symptoms after IVC filter placement. On rare occasions the filter can cause a sharp pain in the

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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

lower back weeks to months after placement. Luckily, these filters are retrievable and can be removed if they are causing symptoms.

Follow-up Appointment

We do not schedule a follow-up appointment after IVC filter placement as filters are placed for varying reasons. Generally, patients who have undergone a surgery can and should have their filters removed if they are walking and out of bed more than 8 hours a day. If you had an IVC filter placed for a DVT (clot in large vein) then the filter can be removed between 3-6 months after a course of blood thinners are given. We ask you to contact our office (813.844.4570) to schedule a clinic appointment to discuss filter removal. A letter will be sent to your home, and often a phone call from our assistant to remind you that the filter can and should be removed in most patients.

For more information on IVC filter removals, please see the accompanying description on that procedure and its scheduling and follow-up.

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

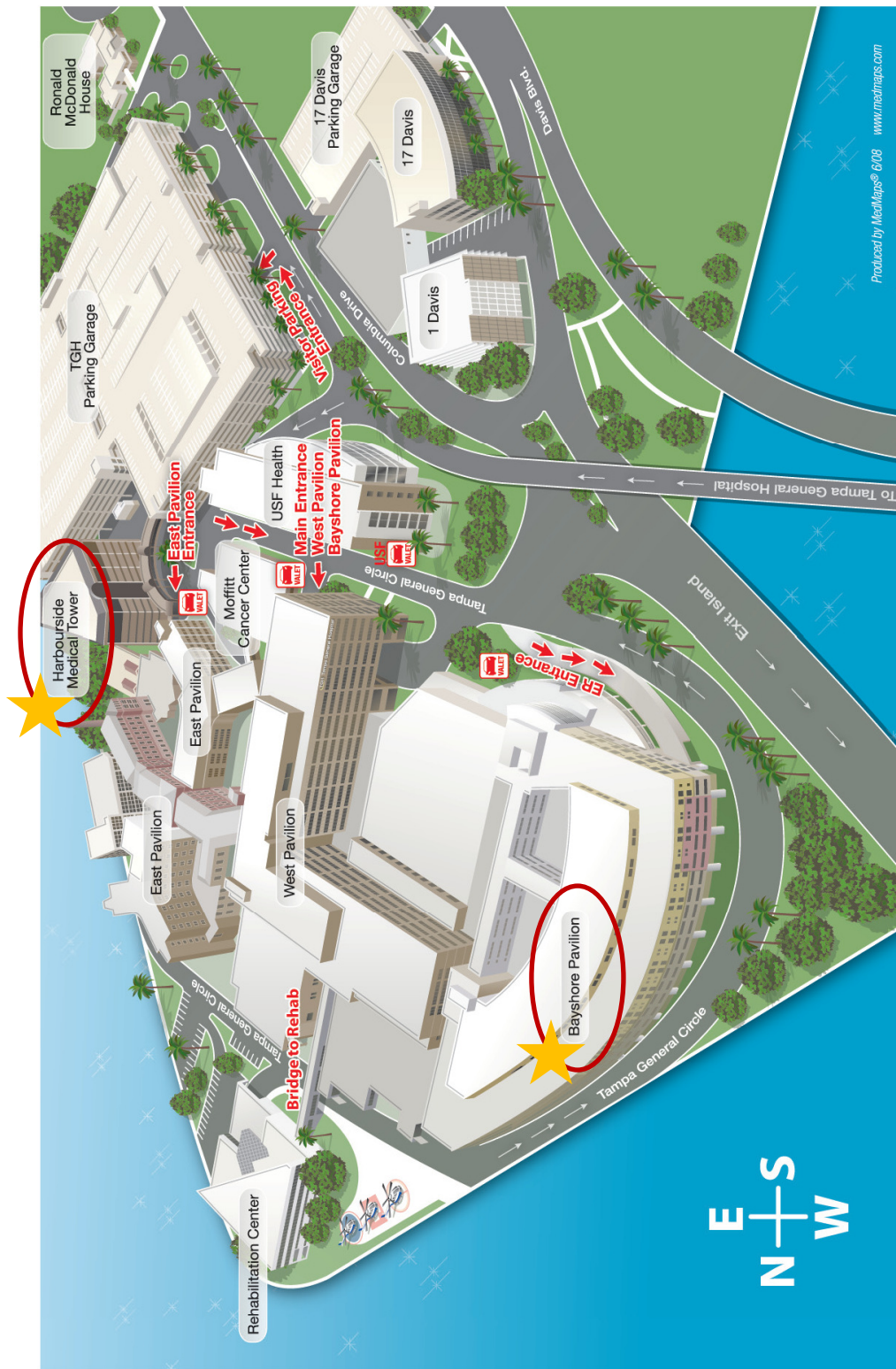
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1 Tampa General Circle • Tampa, FL 33606

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

Form #: 8422, Rev. 11/11/08

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