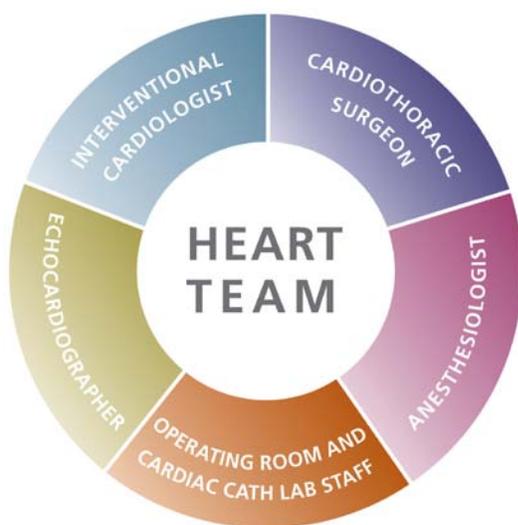


Fact Sheet: The Heart Team

The safety and effectiveness of the Edwards SAPIEN Transcatheter Heart Valve were evaluated in a randomized, controlled pivotal study called The PARTNER Trial. This rigorous study established the clinical evidence necessary for FDA approval, making it available to patients with severe, symptomatic native aortic valve stenosis unable to undergo traditional open-heart surgery. The name of the trial signifies the important partnership between cardiac surgeons and interventional cardiologists who were brought together to collaborate in the evaluation, treatment and follow-up care of patients using a multi-disciplinary, Heart Team approach.

The partnership between the cardiac surgeon and interventional cardiologist establishes the core of the TAVR Heart Team – a care team comprised of specialists from various disciplines that work together to ensure optimal patient outcomes. This multi-disciplinary approach to patient care is essential in TAVR, as each specialist contributes an important area of expertise that plays an integral role in the collective care process.

Transfemoral TAVR Heart Team

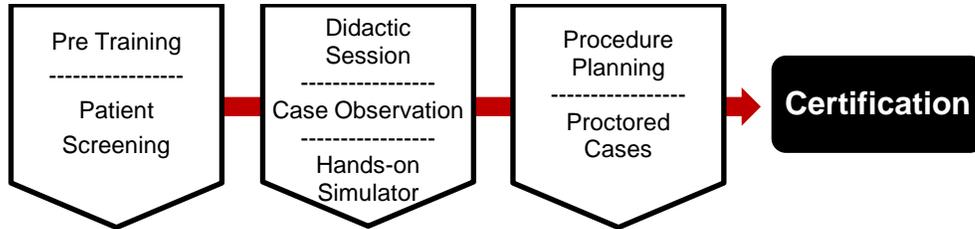


- The **cardiac surgeon** determines the most appropriate candidates for TAVR, and plays a critical role in ensuring optimal outcomes by offering their surgical expertise as needed during the transfemoral TAVR procedure.
- An **interventional cardiologist (IC)** works closely with a cardiac surgeon in the evaluation of potential candidates for TAVR. ICs perform transfemoral TAVR in a cardiac cath lab or hybrid operating room (OR) aided by imaging equipment to assist with optimal valve delivery and placement.
- An **anesthesiologist** is responsible for ensuring safe delivery of anesthesia before and during the procedure, monitoring the patient during the procedure and overseeing post-procedure care.
- An **echocardiographer** uses ultrasound technology to examine and evaluate the function of the heart including valve function and blood flow.
- The **cath lab and OR staff** assist with device as well as room preparation, and closely monitor the patient and procedure environment both during and after the procedure.

Fact Sheet: The Heart Team

Team Training

Core members of the Heart Team at every hospital selected to offer the Edwards SAPIEN Transcatheter Heart Valve must participate in a rigorous training program.



During this comprehensive program, clinicians are trained on appropriate patient selection for TAVR, procedure planning and device preparation. Before doctors are able to perform a procedure, they are required to receive training using a hands-on-simulator and must observe several cases performed by other certified doctors with TAVR experience. This rigorous process has been implemented and utilized with the introduction of the Edwards SAPIEN Valve in other parts of the world, to ensure the technology is utilized by skilled operators, so that optimal patient outcomes are achieved.



Hands-on-Simulator for TAVR Training