

# Welcome to **HEART FIRST**

James S. Rellas, MD, PA, MSMM, FACC ♦ David A. Engleman, MD, FACC  
Brian T. Blatt, DO, FACC, CCDS ♦ William E. Wallace, DO, FACOS, FCCP  
Shruti Boorla, DO ♦ Shailja Parikh, MD

## WHAT TO EXPECT DURING YOUR NEW PATIENT VISIT

You have been referred to HeartFirst for a Cardiovascular Assessment. This consultation with one of our physicians will be more detailed and will take more time than a routine visit with your primary care physician. Not that your appointment consists of 5 steps and you will not meet with the physician until Step IV. (Depending upon the complexity of the consultation, the appointment may take 60-120 minutes).

### ➤ **Step I – Check In**

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment. Upon arrival, our front office staff will perform initial registration, confirm insurance, supply you with medical release documents, HIPPA privacy, etc., and alert medical staff you are here.

### ➤ **Step II – Medical Assistant**

A Medical Assistant will escort you to a patient room for vital signs, height/weight, general medical history and an electrocardiogram.

### ➤ **Step III – Mid-Level Provider**

A Mid-Level Provider (Nurse Practitioner / Physician Assistant) specializing in Cardiovascular Disease will perform an extensive medical history and assessment leading to a focus on the primary reason for your visit.

### ➤ **Step IV - Physician**

A Cardiovascular Physician will meet with you to review previously obtained data, ask additional questions, discuss symptoms and make their recommendations. Further testing needs will be discussed as appropriate.

### ➤ **Step V - Check Out**

Follow-up appointments for testing or office visits will be scheduled as needed. These may be with a Mid-Level Provider under the supervision of a physician.

**Financial Information:** Heart First Cardiology has its own billing office that can be reached at 972-395-7141. We verify your insurance eligibility and benefits and attempt to provide you an **estimate** of your financial responsibility for the services provided. However, final determination of your financial responsibility cannot be made until your insurance carrier processes and pays the claim. We will work with you to make payment arrangements.

**Please go to our website at [www.heartfirst.md](http://www.heartfirst.md)  
to acquaint yourself with our physicians and Mid-Level Providers.**