

# TAKE HER HEALTH TO HEART



## Why You Should Participate in a Cardiovascular Device Trial

Cardiovascular disease affects more women than men each year, yet women have been historically underrepresented in cardiovascular device trials. Cardiovascular device trials explore whether a treatment approach or device is safe and effective. Increasing female participation is critical to improving our understanding about the effects of new treatments for women, and saving lives.



Cardiovascular disease is the **leading cause of death** for women.



Affects **44 million** women in the U.S.



Kills **1 woman every 80 seconds**

Source: The American Heart Association

### Cardiovascular disease can produce different symptoms in women than in men.

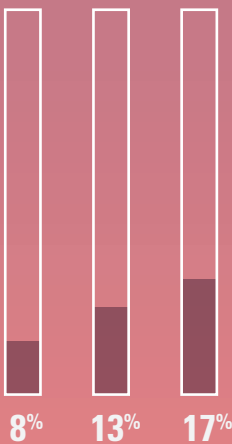


- Stomach, jaw, neck or back pain
- Chest fullness or pressure
- Nausea
- Shortness of breath

### Significant challenges and barriers exist to recruiting women in to cardiovascular device trials.



- Women may present **different symptoms** than men
- Women may **delay going to the doctor**, discovering their heart disease when it's too late
- Only **8%** of primary care doctors, **13%** of gynecologists and **17%** of cardiologists are aware of heart disease as a greater cause of death in women than men



Source: Mosca L, et al. National Study of Physician Awareness and Adherence to Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Guidelines. Circulation. 2005 Feb 1; 111(4):499-510

### There are many benefits to women's participation in cardiovascular device trials.



- Development of lifesaving treatments
- Access to innovative new treatments
- Increased innovation in women's health
- Access to gold standard of care

Physicians play an important role in referring and recruiting women to cardiovascular clinical trials.

Talk to your doctor to see if a clinical trial is right for you

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON CLINICAL TRIALS, VISIT:

- National Institutes of Health (NIH) Website: [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)
- American College of Cardiology, CardioSmart Website, Clinical Trial Finder: [www.cardiosmart.org](https://www.cardiosmart.org)
- American Heart Association: [www.goredforwomen.org](https://www.goredforwomen.org)