

Andrew Tangerine

DOB: 4/6/1950

Participant History

Andrew is a 73 year old male with moderate to severe mitral valve regurgitation who seeks a second opinion for evaluation and surgical risk assessment for possible robotic mitral valve repair intervention.

Dr. Whitecoat's Opinion

Andrew, based on your most recent transthoracic echocardiogram, there is moderate to severe degenerative mitral regurgitation, which primarily affects bilateral mitral valve leaflets. Although your heart function is borderline preserved (ejection fraction at 55-60%), regurgitant volume has increased compared to your prior study, and is one of the parameters we utilize in quantification of your mitral regurgitation. The decision to proceed with surgery is guided by symptomatology and remodeling processes that show enlargement of the atrium and LV chamber. Your left ventricle is mildly dilated however your left atrium is severely enlarged.

Given your progressive symptoms of fatigue and lower extremity edema, we recommend mitral valve surgery. It appears you may be an excellent candidate for robotic mitral valve repair, one with superb quality that is durable and generally yield excellent outcome.

However, please note this is only an opinion based on the information provided thus far. A more thorough assessment and a more in-depth consultation would be needed to confirm diagnosis and finalize the recommended treatment plan.

Wishing You Good Health,
Dr. Walter Whitecoat, MD
Department of Cardiac Surgery

Treatment Options

Option 1 - Robotic mitral valve repair

Andrew, an echocardiogram demonstrated that your mitral valve leaflets appear redundant and with prolapse of your mitral valve leaflets that has led to moderate to severe mitral regurgitation. You may be a suitable candidate for robotically assisted mitral valve surgery. It is a minimally invasive mitral valve surgery with a much smaller incision (5 cm) via right minithoracotomy. Successful repair of the mitral valve can be achieved with an undistorted view of the mitral valve, leaflets and subvalvular structures with the use of our surgical robotic system. Some of the benefits of robotically assisted mitral valve repair include less bleeding, decreased risk of infection, shortened hospital stay and shorter recovery, as well as quicker return to daily and professional activities. Candidacy for robotic surgery will be based upon further evaluation and consultation with our staff and surgical team.

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Option 2 - Transcatheter edge-to-edge repair (Mitraclip)

Another treatment option for mitral regurgitation can be Mitra Clip can be inserting a Mitra Clip, which is a minimally invasive procedure to repair your leaking mitral valve using an implanted clip. It can be an alternative treatment option for a selected group of patients. Candidacy for MitraClip will be based upon further evaluation and consultation with our interventional cardiology team.

Top Questions Answered

1	What's the expected recovery time? While every patient is different, the typical length of stay in the hospital after an uncomplicated robotic mitral valve repair is between 3-5 days. After discharge from the hospital, you can resume normal activities and work as soon as you feel up to it, as there are no specific activity restrictions after robotically assisted mitral valve surgery.
2	What's the expected success rate for this type of procedure especially given my health? It is well-known that repair success increases with surgical volume and expertise. Cedars-Sinai is one of the largest cardiac surgery centers in the US with extensive experience in minimally invasive/robotic cardiac surgery. We have performed more than 1000 robotic assisted mitral valve procedures, with national and international experts in surgical mitral valve repair. Based on internal data, our success rate in repairing a degenerative mitral valve using the robotic platform is greater than 98%. More than 95% patients enjoy a durable repair without any recurrence
3	Am I eligible for a valve repair instead of a valve replacement? Why should I do a repair? In the treatment of degenerative mitral valve disease, valve repair is considered the "gold standard" and is preferred over mitral valve replacement whenever possible. The advantages of mitral valve repair include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It preserves your natural valve and its support (chordae tendineae). In general, the more of the natural valve that can be preserved during surgery, the better the results of the procedure.• It prevents the need for lifelong anticoagulant medicine after valve replacement with a mechanical heart valve.• It reduces the need for repeat valve surgery later in life

Next Steps For Andrew Tangerine
Virtual education session with Dr.
Whitecoat on March 1st, 2024 - 11am

Contact Info
Nurse Coordinator

(310) 555-1234

Resources

<https://www.cedars-sinai.org/programs/heart/specialties/cardiac-surgery.html>