

LVADs improve, extend life for heart failure patients

*****SOT*****

Rick Kurth, patient at OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center in Danville, Illinois

“A lot times I forget I even have it on. It is absolutely no problem.” (:08)

*****SOT*****

Dr. Scott Cook, cardiothoracic surgeon at OSF HealthCare in Urbana, Illinois

“What we do is take the blood out of their left ventricle and put it back into their aorta. We bypass the weak [part of the] heart.” (:09)

*****SOT*****

Dr. Scott Cook, cardiothoracic surgeon at OSF HealthCare in Urbana, Illinois

“Initially, for several months after the device is put in, [providers] don’t want people driving until they’ve recovered and are doing better. Most of these people lost their driving privileges before the operation. It’s a question of getting them back.” (:17)

*****SOT*****

Rick Kurth, patient at OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center in Danville, Illinois

“When I first came, I could probably only walk 30 or 40 feet without having to stop and catch my breath. So when I parked in the parking lot, I’d have to stop maybe two times to catch my breath. Since I’ve been here, that’s gone.” (:20)

*****SOT*****

Brittney Cromwell, exercise physiologist at OSF HealthCare in Danville, Illinois

“He kept a positive attitude and was willing to push himself. He says ‘What more can I do now?’ When you have that [attitude], you’re able to push past a lot of obstacles.” (:10)

*****SOT*****

Dianne Kurth, wife of Rick Kurth

“Each time he came home, it was better and better.” (:04)