

## Act in Time to **Heart Attack Signs** Action Plan

Physician's Name \_\_\_\_

Patient's Name\_\_\_\_\_

## Heart disease is the top killer of men and women.

Learn the signs of a heart attack and the steps to take if one happens. You can save a life–maybe your own.

### **Heart Attack Warning Signs**

#### Chest Discomfort

Uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or goes away and comes back.

### Discomfort in Other Areas of the Upper Body

Can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach.

#### Shortness of Breath

Often comes with or before chest discomfort.

#### Other Signs

May include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea, or light-headedness.

### **Plan Ahead**

- ▲ For your safety, fill in this action plan and keep it in a handy place.
- ▲ Learn the heart attack warning signs. Talk with family and friends about them and the need to call 9-1-1 quickly.
- ▲ Talk with your health care provider about your risk factors for heart attack—and how to reduce them.

\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_

# Treatment can stop a heart attack in its tracks.

Clot-busting drugs and other artery-opening treatments work best to stop a heart attack if given *within 1 hour* of the start of symptoms.

### **Minutes Matter**

▲ If you or someone else is having heart attack warning signs:

**Call 9-1-1** 

- Don't wait more than a few minutes— 5 minutes at most—to call 9-1-1.
- ▲ If symptoms **stop completely** in less than **5 minutes**, you should still call your health care provider.

#### Information To Share With Emergency Medical Personnel/Hospital Staff

Medicines you are taking:

Medicines you are allergic to:\_\_\_\_\_

If symptoms *stop completely* in less than **5 minutes**, you should still call your health care provider. Phone number during office hours:

Phone number after office hours:

## Person You Would Like Contacted If You Go to the Hospital

Name: \_\_

Home phone number:\_\_\_\_\_

Work phone number:\_\_\_\_\_

