Topic Summary: Healthy Relationships and Sexual Intimacy

Managing your heart condition can be stressful and lonely. Having positive social relationships can help you cope better and improve your health. Your heart condition or treatment may also affect your sexual intimacy. The good news is that there are actions you can take to be intimate and return to sexual activity after a heart event.

Learning goals

Explore the learning resources to learn:

- How to build social relationships that improve your health
- How heart disease can affect sex and intimacy

Learning Resources

■ THRiVE: <u>Strengthen Your Social Relationships</u>

Website: Relationships

Website: <u>Sexual Intimacy</u>

Webinar: <u>Communication, Relationships, and</u>
Returning to Sexual Activity

 Guide: Enjoying a healthy relationship and sexual intimacy

Tools for Self-Management

- Create your action plan
- Reflect on your week

Key points:

- ◆ Your family, friends, and loved ones will be able to support you better if you tell them how you are feeling. Be clear and specific about how you feel.
- ◆ If you can easily walk up two flights of stairs or walk briskly, your heart should be safe during sex. Review the tips on how to keep your heart safe during sex.