

Discharge Instructions for Pacemakers

Call your doctor if:

1. You become dizzy, faint or black out.
2. If you have a fever over 101 degrees.
3. If the incision drains for more than two days.
4. If you have pain not relieved by your medication.
5. The area around the pacemaker becomes red or hot to the touch.

Wound care:

1. Avoid getting the wound wet or dirty for one week
2. Remove the occlusive dressing in 48 hours, or as instructed.
3. If you have tapes covering the incision (steristrips) remove them after one week.

Medication:

1. Refer to the medication instruction sheet provided by the nurse.
2. Check with your doctor about when to resume any medications you stopped for the procedure.

Activity:

1. Do not drive for 24 hours.
2. Avoid strenuous activity using the arm on the same side as the implant for one week.
3. Check with your doctor about returning to work.
4. When using a cell phone do not dial the phone near the pacemaker.

General information:

1. Remind your doctors and dentists that you have a pacemaker.
2. Tell airport security you have a pacemaker.
3. Carry your pacemaker ID with you.
4. Microwaves and other household appliances generally do not affect pacemakers.

You received radiation (x-ray) during your pacemaker implant. If you see a reddened area on your back or chest this could have been caused by radiation exposure. Please notify your physician if this occurs.