

Wound Advice

If you have a skin stitch

Keep the wound dry until the stitch is removed, which should be seven days after your operation. **You must make an appointment with your GP surgery to do this.**

If you have Dermabond skin closure

Dermabond is a topical skin adhesive, which bonds the wound edges, then acts like natural skin. You have no skin stitches.

- There is no need to cover the wound.
- Please do not pick at the Dermabond adhesive film
- Please wash the wound gently, but do not scrub it
- You can shower, but do not allow the wound to soak in water, such as in a deep bath or swimming, for ten days after the procedure
- The layer of Dermabond adhesive should flake off naturally in about ten days
- If you experience any problems with your wound such as redness, swelling, excessive pain or discharge, always contact your GP.

Pacemaker Checks:

Your pacemaker will be checked by the physiologists before you are discharged home.

They will give you another appointment for the Pacemaker Clinic in the Cardiac Centre, for about a month later.

At each outpatient appointment you will be advised when you need to return for check-ups, generally once a year.

Cardiac Centre, 3rd Floor, Royal United Hospital Bath NHS Trust, Combe Park, Bath BA1 3NG

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After Pacemaker Implantation



This leaflet contains some information on how you should take care of yourself after having a pacemaker fitted.

Before your procedure a cardiac physiologist will come and see you and to talk through the procedure and answer any questions you may have.

Please read this leaflet and keep it in a safe place for reference.

Some Do's and Don'ts after your procedure

Please do not lift anything heavy or raise your right/left arm above your head until your pacemaker check, approximately one month after discharge from hospital (see back page for information on pacemaker checks). This may displace the electrode in your heart.

Please do not drive - by law you may not drive for at least a week after any pacing procedure. If this is a new pacemaker insertion, we strongly advise you not to drive until after your follow-up appointment at approximately one month.

Please do not enter a Physiotherapy, Radiotherapy or Xray department without telling the staff there that you have a pacemaker. In these environments some equipment may affect your pacemaker.

Please do not wear tight braces or tight clothing over your pacemaker until your pacemaker check at approximately one month.

Please do not take strenuous exercise such as swimming, tennis, running or golf until your pacemaker check at approximately one month.

Please do not use arc-welding equipment.

Please do not linger close to an anti-theft machine at the exit of a shop or library.

Please do inform the staff if you are admitted to hospital for any reason, that you have a pacemaker. Your GP will be informed by the hospital. Please tell your dentist at your next visit.

Please do carry the identity card you will be given at all times. It contains important information about you and your pacemaker.

Please do tell airlines, if flying abroad, that you have a pacemaker, as you will be going through a metal detector and the alarms may sound. This will not harm your pacemaker in any way.

Please do tell the DVLA and your car insurance company that you have a pacemaker. We can give you a pro-forma for this at the follow-up clinic at approximately one month.

Please do have any faulty domestic electrical equipment repaired. Properly working equipment will not affect your pacemaker in any way.

Please do tell a hospital doctor or physiologist if you ever use a shotgun or rifle, before your pacemaker is implanted.

Please do tell the hospital doctor or physiologist if you use high power radio or magnetic equipment (particularly in your place of work).

Please do discuss the use of mobile phones with the physiologists.

Please do notify us of any change of address or doctor.

Please do telephone the cardiac physiologists if you have any concerns or problems with your pacemaker, using this number: (01225) 825439.