

## Cardiology

# Injectable loop recorder implant

Please find below some information that you may find useful with regards to your upcoming procedure.

### Admission

You will have received a letter with this information sheet which will have your admission date, time and which hospital and department to attend to.

If cannot attend for your appointment or you have any queries about your appointment, please contact the Cardiology Waiting List team on **024 7696 5592**.

### University Hospital – Coventry

If your appointment is at University Hospital in Coventry, please park on site and follow car park instructions. Then please to report to the Main Reception desk in the Main Entrance at University Hospital, they will then give you some paperwork to take to the ward with you. Please then go to the Cardiology Assessment Hub located on Ward 21, which is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor where the staff will greet you.

### Meriden Hospital – on the Coventry site

If your appointment is at the Meriden Hospital (Private Hospital) which is on the Coventry University Hospital site, then please park at the Meriden Hospital car park and report to the reception desk in the Meriden Hospital. You will be asked to enter your car registration number when you arrive at reception. Please take a maximum of 1 visitor with you as their reception area is quite compact. The staff from the Cath Lab will come down to reception to greet you and take you to the Cath Lab where your procedure



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will be carried out.

Please note that your procedure may not be at the time of your appointment due to unforeseen delays.

This procedure is performed by a nurse specialist and a cardiac physiologist, and the procedure will take around 45 mins.

### Items to bring

Please bring a list of your current medication and any medications that you may need to take whilst with us on the unit.

### Pre-procedure

- You can eat and drink prior to the procedure as usual, and you will be able to eat and drink post procedure

### Medications

**Warfarin** - If you are taking warfarin, please **stop these 4 days prior to admission**, unless you have a metallic heart valve.

If you take warfarin because of a metallic heart valve, you **must not stop taking** your warfarin but please liaise with your Anticoagulation Nurse/Warfarin clinic to ensure your INR is between 2 and 3 on the day of the procedure. Your INR will be checked on the day and you will be placed last on the list.

**Apixaban/Rivaroxaban/Dabigatran/Edoxaban** – If you are on any of these blood thinning medications, please **stop 1 day prior to admission**

If you have any queries about medication, please contact staff on the Cardiology Assessment Hub on telephone number:

Cardiac Assessment Hub (**Coventry**) **02476965661**

## Patient Information

**Below is some information about the Implantable Loop Recorder, we hope it answers some of your questions or concerns you may have about the procedure. It is not intended to replace the discussion between you and the healthcare team.**

### **What is an injectable loop recorder implant (ILR)?**

An Injectable Loop Recorder implant which you may hear being called an “ILR” is a small implantable cardiac monitor that is capable of automatically detecting and recording a number of abnormal heart rhythms.

### **Why do I need an injectable loop recorder implant?**

You may have been experiencing blackouts, fainting episodes, or dizziness of unknown cause, or you may have had a stroke. An implantable loop recorder is not a treatment for these symptoms, but it can record your heart rhythm during these episodes to determine if there is an underlying abnormal heart rhythm.

### **How is the device implanted?**

You will be awake during the procedure, and the procedure is carried out under local anesthetic. A small cut is made, and the device is inserted just under the skin to the left of your breastbone. The wound is closed using a special kind of glue or paper stitches.

### **What are the risks involved?**

The procedure is usually very safe and performed regularly in our hospitals, as with any procedure there are some risks.

There is a small risk of bleeding and infection of the wound site, and a small risk of migration of the device. Any risks of the procedure will be discussed with you in more detail before you sign a consent form.

### **How long does the device stay in for?**

The device can continuously monitor your heart rhythm for up to approximately 2 to 3 years.

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### **When can I resume normal activities after the procedure?**

You will be able to go home the same day, you will be given discharge advice on how to care for your wound, and what to do if you notice any redness, swelling or discharge.

You will be advised to avoid heavy lifting and manual work for 1 week following the procedure.

### **Can I go through metal detector security scanners with an ILR?**

It is unlikely that security scanners (for example at airports) will interfere with the data collection, but they may detect the metal components and set off an alarm. It may be necessary to present your device identification card to obtain clearance.

### **Can I have an MRI scan whilst I have an ILR?**

The radiographers in the MRI department will need to see your device identification card so that they know what MRI scanners are safe for this device. There is a small risk that the device memory can be erased when having an MRI, so it is recommended to do a manual download or have your data downloaded before having the scan.

## **Home monitoring**

Depending on the make and model of your implantable loop recorder you may be given a bedside monitor or asked to download an app onto your smart phone (please note - if your phone is not compatible, we can offer you a tablet/transmitter so you can still have the app). The bedside monitor or app will communicate with your device and send any abnormal heart rhythms to the Department of Cardiac Investigations at Coventry University hospital. For the home monitor to work effectively please keep it plugged in all the time, and if using an app, keep Bluetooth on and connected to the internet.

The cardiac physiologist will explain the home monitoring system on the day you have your procedure, and you will be given an information leaflet on discharge.

## Patient Information

We hope this leaflet has been helpful, if you require any further information then please contact:

Cardiology Waiting List Team (for appointment queries) on telephone **024 7696 5592**

Cardiology Assessment Hub (for any clinical/medication queries) on telephone:

University Hospital (Coventry) 024 7696 5661

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, please ask and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy.

### Did we get it right?

We would like you to tell us what you think about our services. This helps us make further improvements and recognise members of staff who provide a good service.

Have your say. Scan the QR code or visit:

[www.uhcv.nhs.uk/feedback](http://www.uhcv.nhs.uk/feedback)



#### Document History

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