Information following a pacemaker implant

Information for patients, carers and their families

Pacemaker ID card
You will be given a temporary pacemaker ID card to carry with you in your wallet or purse at all times. The card will have your name, pacemaker and lead details, and a contact number for the SCUH Pacing Clinic.

The company which supplies your pacemaker will send you a "permanent" card within the next four to six weeks. It will have the same details as your temporary card.

Pacemaker education booklet
Please take the time to read the pacemaker booklet that has been given to you. It will explain how your Pacemaker works and provide you with answers to many of the questions you may have about your pacemaker.

Wound care
It is important to keep the wound clean and dry. For the first seven days, do not allow any water when bathing near the wound site.

You will need to see your G.P. in seven days to remove the dressing over your wound. After removal of the dressing, the wound is to be left uncovered, dry and clean.

If you notice any signs of infection, please call the SCUH Pacemaker Clinic at once on (07) 5202 0903. Signs of infection include fever, redness, swelling, warmth, soreness, or drainage over the pacemaker wound site.

General instructions for patients
You will not be able to drive for two weeks (private) or four weeks (commercial) after your pacemaker implant.

Avoid lifting your arm, on the same side of your pacemaker, above the shoulder for two weeks. Avoid any lifting, pushing or pulling of heavy objects for two weeks.

Pacemaker follow up appointment
It is very important to keep your pacemaker follow up appointment. At this appointment, your pacemaker and lead/s will be checked to make sure they are working well.

If you ever change your address or phone contact details, please ring the SCUH Pacing Clinic on the above number to advise the staff of these changes.

Contact
SCUH Pacemaker and ICD Clinic
Clinical Investigation Unit
Sunshine Coast University Hospital
Doherty Road
Birtinya QLD 4575
Phone: (07) 5202 0903
Monday – Friday
8am – 4:30pm