

Cardiac Device Generator Replacement Education

Cardiac Device Generator Replacement

Your doctor has advised you that your cardiac device generator needs to be replaced. This education guide will help communicate what will happen before, during and after your procedure. It was written to inform you about your procedure and answer the most frequently asked questions.

What is a Cardiac Device Generator Replacement?

Your Cardiac Device uses a battery (generator) that periodically needs to be replaced. The amount of time between generator replacement is different for everyone.

A small incision is made near the current generator, the generator is removed and the new one is implanted. While you are sedated the new generator is tested and adjusted to meet your needs. This procedure usually takes 30 minutes to 1 hour, and you usually go home the same day.

Preparation

You will receive a phone call reminding you of your procedure. Please feel free to ask our staff any questions you may have.

What do I do before my procedure?

- You will need to fast (no food or drink) for this procedure, follow the pre-procedure instruction sheet.
- Arrange for a responsible adult to drive you home after the procedure and stay with you for the next 24 hours.
- Refer to the pre-procedure instruction sheet for arrival time and procedure time.
- Shower, the night before and the morning of your procedure, with an antibacterial soap or special soap. Follow the instructions provided to you.

Medications

- It is very important to follow the pre-procedure medication instructions provided by your physician.
- We will remind you of these during a pre-procedure phone call.

Day of Procedure

What do I do the day of my procedure?

- Do not apply makeup, lotions, deodorant or hair products on this day.
- Leave valuables and jewelry at home.
- When you arrive, simply check in at our first floor front desk.
- After registration you will be taken to a room, and a nurse will get you ready for the procedure.

Anesthesia

Will I have anesthesia? Yes

During the procedure you will be given medications in your IV that will make you sleepy. This type of anesthesia is called procedural sedation. Unlike deep anesthesia that you may receive during a surgery, this anesthesia will allow you to sleep lightly but still respond to commands, such as take a deep breath or open your eyes. The light sleep will make you more comfortable during your procedure. Friend or family help is recommended for 24 hours after anesthesia.

What are the side effects of anesthesia?

- Poor balance
- Headache
- Sleepiness
- Impaired judgement for up to 24 hours
- Memory fog
- Nausea

After the Procedure

What should I expect after my procedure?

- Once the procedure is complete you will return to a room for recovery. A nurse will oversee your recovery.
- You are normally able to go home in 1-2 hours after your procedure.
- You will go home with a dressing over your incision. Before you are discharged, we will provide you with written instructions, and inform you when to remove the dressing and how to care for the incision.
- Your nurse will provide you with written discharge instructions and answer all your questions before sending you home.

If you experience:

- **Pain** - At home you may experience mild discomfort at the incision site. This is usually managed with over the counter pain relievers and/or ice packs.
- **Unexpected Bleeding** - Excessive bleeding or fluid that soaks through the dressing is not normal. Contact your physician's office.
- **Nausea & Vomiting** - Begin with sips of clear liquids in small amounts. Once you tolerate clear liquids, you should slowly add in other bland, low fat food choices, gradually increasing to your normal diet.
- **Signs of Infection** - Call your physician if you have a fever over 101 degrees, increased redness, swelling or heat at the incision site.

Date & Version #	Form Changes
OHHP-F620 (Rev. 10/18)	New Logo added
OHHP-F620 (Rev. 1/20)	Type Changes