



Pacemaker Implantation

Brief Description of Procedure:

A pacemaker is used to help the heart beat regularly. It is a battery-operated device that is inserted under the skin and is composed to two parts, i.e., the generator and the leads. The generator is the “brains” of the pacemaker and stores the information it needs to regulate the heartbeat. The leads are wires that run from the generator through a large vein and are anchored to the heart. Electrical impulses run down the leads to the heart muscle and tell it to beat. The procedure usually takes approximately one hour, is performed under local anesthetic, and normally requires a one-day stay in the hospital. A small incision is made usually on the left side of the chest and the pacemaker is placed under the skin. The lead wires are then positioned under x-ray in the heart and then connected to the generator.

Why Am I Having this Procedure?

Your physician has recommended that you receive a pacemaker because your heart is not beating properly. A pacemaker is used to regulate the heartbeat. Pacemakers will “turn on” if the heartbeat is too slow and send impulses telling the heart to beat faster and they will “turn off” when the heart beats faster and they are not needed.

Please call our office with additional questions.