

Pacemakers & Defibrillators



Other names:

- Implantable cardioverter-defibrillator
- Automated external defibrillator
- Cardiac Pacemaker

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The purpose of this guide is to help patients and families find quality information about pacemakers and defibrillators. This list is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather to provide starting points for information seeking. The resources may be obtained at the Wellness Resource Center, room 2101 in the Cardiovascular Center.

Brochures, Fact sheets

- American Heart Association
 - *Living with Your Pacemaker*
- Heart Rhythm Society.
 - *Pacemaker*
 - *Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICD's)*Same content available online at: <http://www.hrspatients.org>

Book Chapter

- Kastor, John A. Devices Used to Treat Arrhythmias in: *You and Your Arrhythmia: A Guide to Heart Rhythm Problems for Patients & Their Families*. Sudbury, Mass. : Jones and Bartlett, 2006

Audiovisual Resources

- **An interactive tutorial on MedlinePlus.gov - Pacemaker**
Access at: <http://www.medlineplus.gov>
Click on the link to Interactive Tutorials and select from the list under the heading: "Surgery and Treatment Procedures"
A slide show with voice over and graphics explains how pacemakers work, the implanting procedure, managing the pacemaker and living with a pacemaker.

- **HeartAuthority.com – section on Pacemakers and Defibrillators**
Access at: <http://www.heartauthority.com>
On the left sidebar click on: “Pacemakers and Defibrillators”
This section features video files on pacemakers and defibrillators including the different types of pacemakers and how life with change with a pacemaker. This site is produced in collaboration with the American College of Cardiology.

Web Resources

- **FDA Heart Health online – section on medical devices**
Access at: <http://www.fda.gov/hearthealth>, click on “Treatments” and then on “Medical Devices”
General information about automated external defibrillator (AED), implantable cardiac pacemaker and implantable cardioverter defibrillator(ICD). This page has links to other sites that provide information about medical devices.
- **Heart Rhythm Society**
Access at: <http://www.hrspatients.org>
The section on Treatments has information and illustrations about electronic devices.
- **HearHub.org – section on Arrhythmia**
Access at: <http://www.hearhub.org>
Under the “Health Centers” menu select: “Arrhythmia”
This section provides easy-to-read explanations and illustrations about living with a pacemaker.
- **The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) – Sections on Pacemaker and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator**
Access at: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov>
Click on “A-Z Diseases and Conditions Index” and select from the list
These sections provide an easy-to-read overview of pacemakers or defibrillators including who needs them, how they work and lifestyle.
- **University of Michigan Cardiovascular Center – Learn About Cardiovascular Disease**
Access at: <http://www.med.umich.edu/cvc/learn/index.html>
This site links to overviews of heart conditions and disorders, tests, procedures, treatments, prevention and wellness topics.

- **UpToDate.**

- *Patient information: Pacemakers*
- *Patient information: Implantable cardioverter-defibrillators*

Access at: <http://www.patients.uptodate.com>. Point your cursor on "View Patient- Level Health Topics by Category", click on "Heart Disease" and select from the list.

These detailed, comprehensive overviews are based on professional literature reviews written for physicians. The overviews include some medical terminology and are suitable for readers seeking to gain in-depth understanding of coronary heart disease.

University of Michigan Resources

- **The Preventive Cardiology program** at Domino's Farms offers a number of relevant program and services Including:

- Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
- Exercise Consultations
- Nutrition Services
- Stress Management Services

For more information access

<http://www.med.umich.edu/cvc/adult/serpre.htm>

or call: 734.998.7400.

- **Tobacco Consultation Service**

Group and individual quit-smoking programs.

For more information access: <http://www.med.umich.edu/mfit/tobacco/> or call 734.936.5988.

Websites of heart device companies

- **Medtronic**

Access: <http://www.medtronic.com/>

→ Click on: "Information for patients"

→ Click on: Heart Conditions"

Printable brochures available at:

<http://www.medtronic.com/rhythms/brochures.html>

- **Guidant**

Access: <http://www.lifebeatonline.com/>

An online newsletter for people with a heart device

- **St. Jude Medical**

Access: <http://www.sjm.com>

- Under "Resources" Click on: "Learn More About".
- Click on "pacemakers"

- **Biotronik**

Access: <http://www.biotronik.de/en/de/3151>

On the left sidebar select either Pacemakers or Defibrillators

To access printable brochures:

- Access: <http://www.biotronik.de>
- Click on "English" and then on "Patients"
- Click on "Patient Brochures"

Patient Support Organizations

- **Heart Rhythm Society**

Web site: <http://www.hrspatients.org>

Tel.: (202) 464-3400

This document is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Our aim is to promote active participation in your care and treatment by providing information and education. Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options should be discussed with your physician.

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