


## When is Electromagnetic Interference a Clinical Concern?


David Hayes, MD, Chief Medical Officer

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### Which of the following is most concerning in terms of EMI effect on pacemakers is the presence of:

1. Asymptomatic transient ventricular pacing inhibition
2. Presyncope or syncope
3. Palpitations
4. Secondary pacemaker mediated tachycardia

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## Clinically Significant EMI: Class I

- Interference associated with: presyncope, syncope, dizziness, dyspnea
- Transient ventricular inhibition for > 3 secs
- Transient atrial inhibition for > 2 seconds with AAT or AATD programming
- Persistent *If the patient is symptomatic and/or if the abnormality could lead to potentially life-threatening situation*
- Persistent
- Any change in programmed settings
- Secondary events of supraventricular or ventricular arrhythmias

Hayes, et al. NEJM 1997; 336:1473

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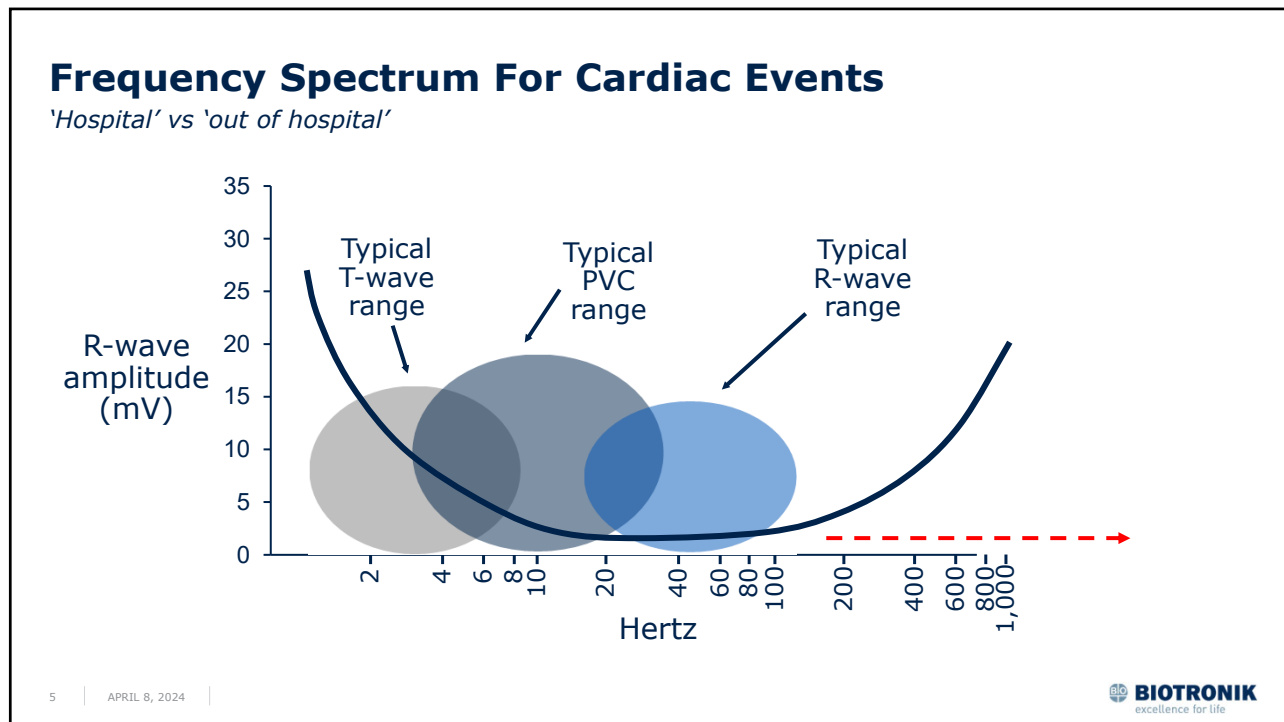
## Potential Effects of EMI

- Failure to deliver antibradycardia pacing or effective CRT therapy
- Inappropriate delivery of antitachycardia therapy
- Resetting of programmed parameters
- Damage to the pulse generator and/or lead/myocardial interface

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## Sources of EMI in the Hospital Environment<sup>1</sup>

- Electrocautery/cardioversion/defibrillation
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Lithotripsy
- Radiofrequency ablation
- Electroshock therapy
- Transcutaneous nerve stimulators

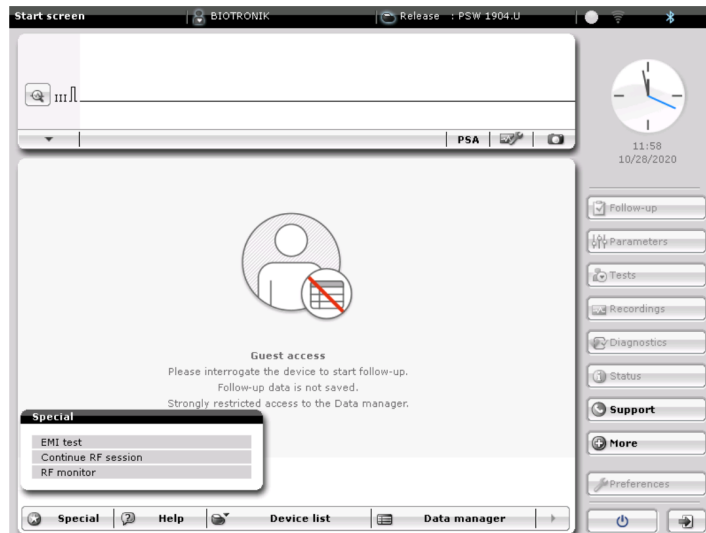
1 Other potential sources of EMI are present

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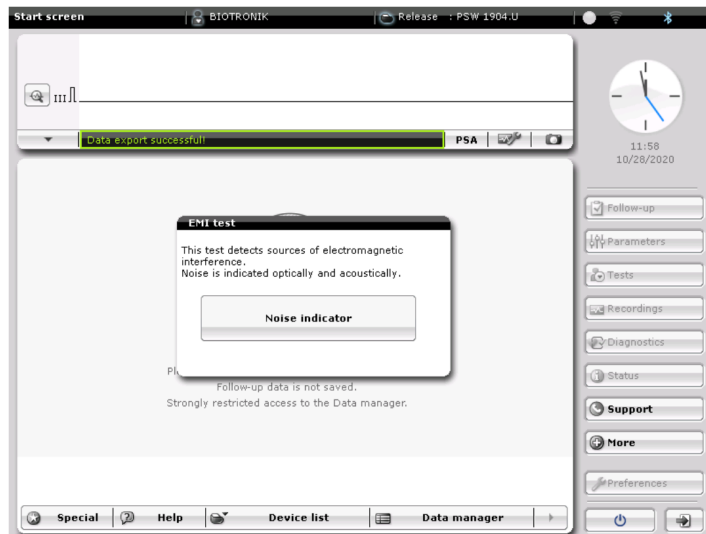
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# BIOTRONIK EMI Test



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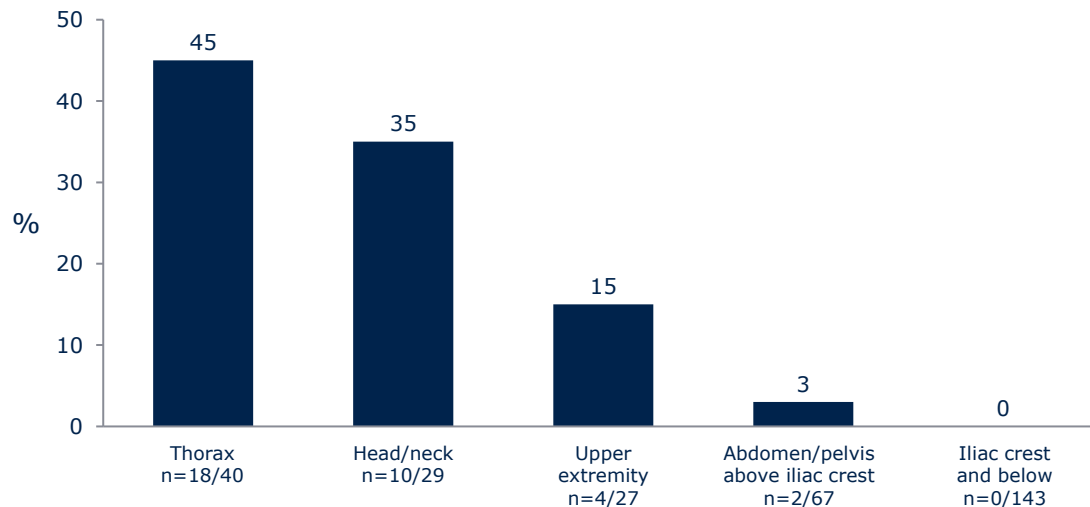
# BIOTRONIK EMI Test



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## Incidence of EMI Based on Surgical Location



Gifford J, Larimer K, Thomas C, May P. ICD-ON registry for perioperative management of CIEDs: most require no change. Pacing Clin Electrophysiol 2017; 40: 128-34.

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## CIED Management for Surgical Procedure

- Document preoperative programmed parameters
- Determine whether patient is pacemaker dependent (PMD)
- Not PMD:
  1. PM: Possible turn off rate adaptive sensor; place on monitor
  2. High voltage CIED: place on monitor; turn off tachy Rx
- Additional for PMD:
  1. PM: Program asynchronous mode [intraoperative magnet application preferred by some – requires magnet mode set to asynchronous response]
  2. High voltage: Program to equivalent of asynchronous mode
- Post-op: Interrogate; restore original programming
- The current path and ground plate should be kept as far away from the pulse generator/ICD and leads as possible (at least 6 inches / 15 cm)
- The bipolar setting on the electrocautery equipment should be used, if available
- The electrocautery ground pad should be placed on the same side of the patient that electrocautery will be performed

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**Pt with DC-PM programmed VVI for cardioversion for atrial fib.  
Tracing obtained post-cardioversion demonstrates?**

1. Normal function
2. Persistent atrial fibrillation
3. Ventricular failure to capture



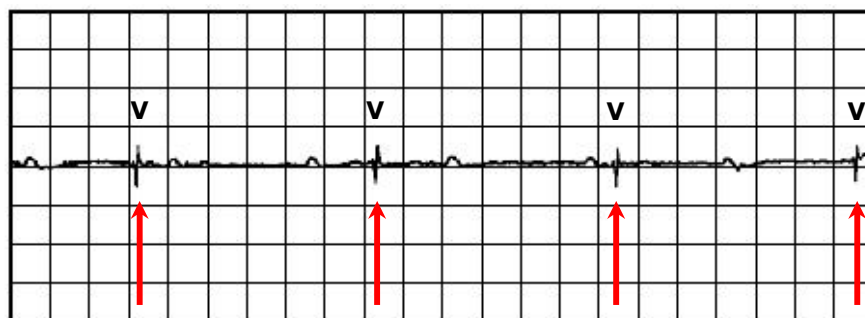
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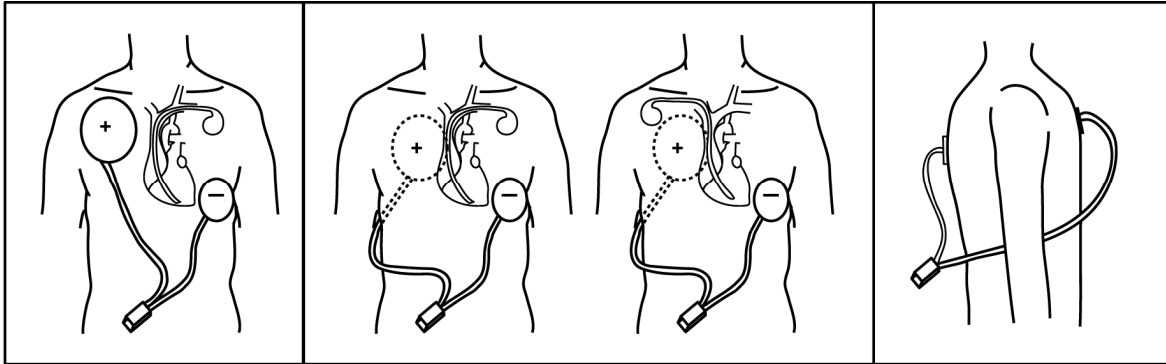
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## Paddle Placement for Elective Cardioversion

Apex-Anterior

Apex-Posterior



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## 'Conditionally Safe' MRI CIED Systems

- Many leads have been approved as conditionally safe
- For a 'system' to be considered conditionally safe the components must be from the same manufacturer
- MagnaSafe and other registries imaging non-conditionally safe CIED systems have demonstrated that carefully managed MRI can be done safely in many patients\*
- Guidelines for imaging standard CIED systems have been published by HRS<sup>1</sup>

\*MRI of non-conditionally approved devices would be considered "off-label" and is therefore not recommended

<sup>1</sup> Indik JH, Gimbel JR, Abe H, Alkmmim-Teixeira R, Birgersdotter-Green U, Clarke GD, Dickfeld TL, Froelich JW, Grant J, Hayes DL, Heidbuchel H, Idriss SF, Kanal E, Lampert R, Machado CE, Mandrola JM, Nazarian S, Patton KK, Rozner MA, Russo RJ, Shen WK, Shinbane JS, Teo WS, Uribe W, Verma A, Wilkoff BL, Woodard PK. 2017 HRS expert consensus statement on magnetic resonance imaging and radiation exposure in patients with cardiovascular implantable electronic devices. Heart Rhythm. 2017 Jul;14(7):e97-e153. doi: 10.1016/j.hrthm.2017.04.025. Epub 2017 May 11. PMID: 28502708.


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MRI hazard	Static	Gradient	RF
<b>Force and torque</b> Patient discomfort, dislodgement	♦		
<b>Vibration</b> Patient discomfort, device damage	♦	♦	
<b>Image artifact</b> <b>Diagnostic image quality</b>	♦	♦	♦
<b>Device interactions</b> Therapy delivery, device reset/damage	♦	♦	♦
<b>Case heating</b> Patient discomfort, necrosis		♦	♦
<b>Unintended cardiac stimulation (UCS)</b> Arrhythmia induction, asystole		♦	♦
<b>Lead-electrode heating</b> Therapy delivery, sensing			♦



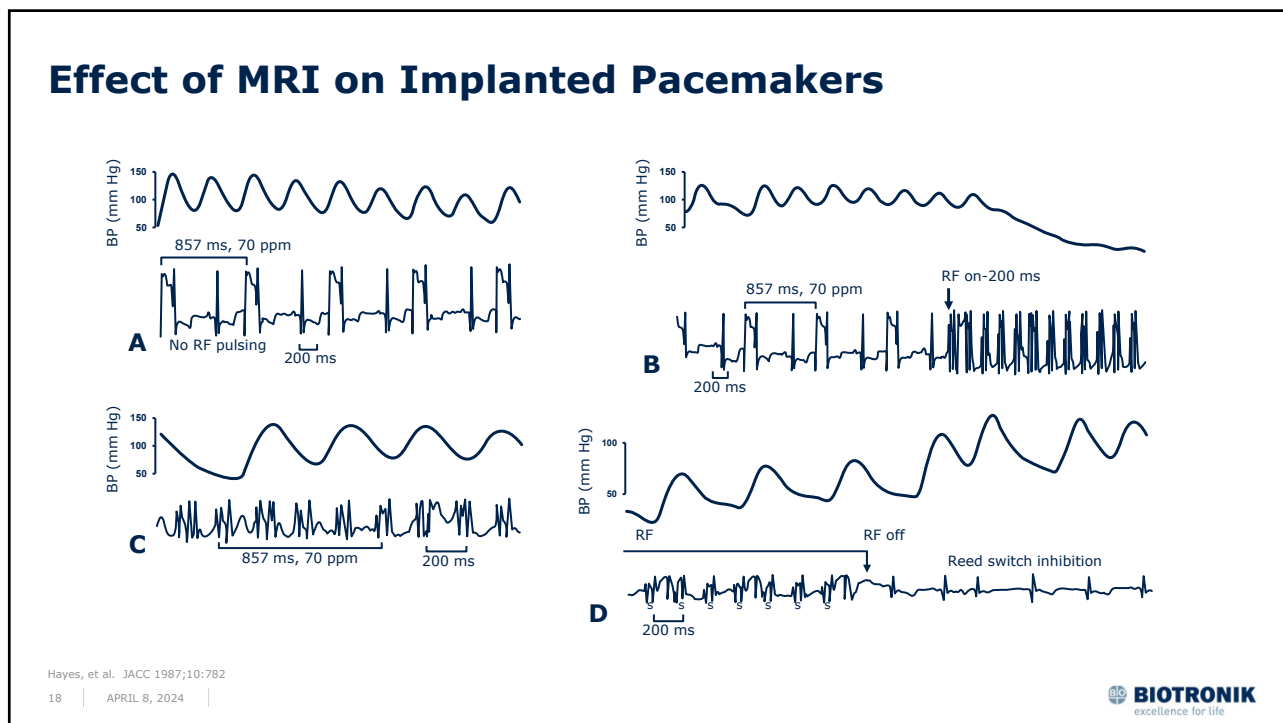
**ISO/TS 10974:2012**  
Assessment of the safety of magnetic resonance imaging for patients with an active implantable medical device



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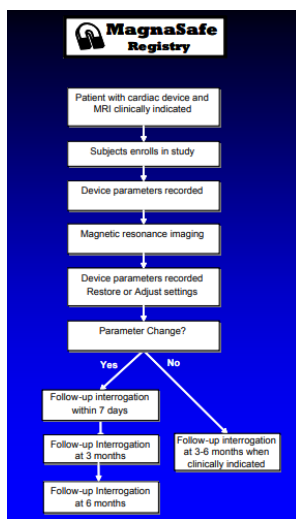
## MagnaSafe Registry

### Inclusion Criteria

1. Male or Female 18 years or older
2. Permanent pacemaker or ICD generator implanted after 2001
3. Strong clinical indication for MRI
4. Scheduled for non-thoracic MRI

### Exclusion Criteria

1. Metallic objects that are a contraindication to MRI
2. Claustrophobia unresponsive to oral sedatives
3. Morbid obesity (abdominal diameter >60 cm)
4. Has an ICD and is pacing dependent
5. Pregnancy
6. Battery voltage at ERI
7. Active implanted device (other than pacemaker/ICD)
8. Presence of abandoned leads
9. Cardiac device in abdominal position
10. Pacemaker or ICD that is labeled as MRI-Conditional (approved by the FDA for exposure to MRI).



## Mayo Clinic

- 2008 – 2019
- > 1500 patients with standard pacemakers/ICDs underwent MRI under approved protocol
- Majority were non-pacemaker dependent
- Majority were pacemakers and majority were non-thoracic scans
- CK and troponin done pre- and 24 hours post MRI while under IRB status
- No significant abnormalities or clinical issues occurred

### 2017 HRS expert consensus statement on magnetic resonance imaging and radiation exposure in patients with cardiovascular implantable electronic devices

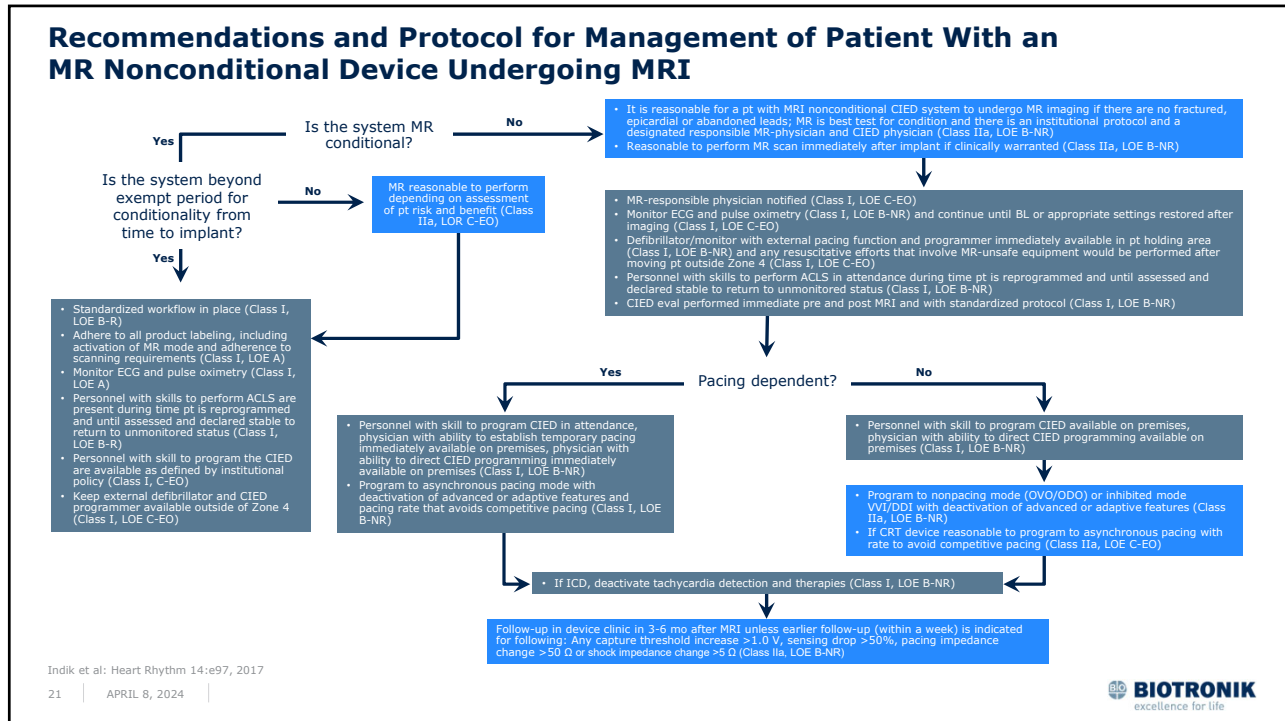
Julia H. Indik, MD, PhD, FHRS, FACC, FAHA (Chair),<sup>1</sup> J. Rod Gimbel, MD (Vice-Chair),<sup>2</sup> Haruhiko Abe, MD,<sup>3,\*</sup> Ricardo Alkmim-Teixeira, MD, PhD,<sup>4,†</sup> Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, MD, FHRS,<sup>5</sup> Geoffrey D. Clarke, PhD, FACR, FAAPM,<sup>6,‡</sup> Timm-Michael L. Dickfeld, MD, PhD,<sup>7</sup> Jerry W. Froelich, MD, FACR,<sup>8,‡</sup> Jonathan Grant, MD,<sup>9,§</sup> David L. Hayes, MD, FHRS,<sup>10</sup> Hein Heidbuchel, MD, PhD, FESC,<sup>11,\*,†</sup> Salim F. Idriss, MD, PhD, FHRS, FACC,<sup>12,†</sup> Emanuel Kanal, MD, FACR, FISM, MRMD,<sup>13</sup> Rachel Lampert, MD, FHRS,<sup>14</sup> Christian E. Machado, MD, FHRS, CCDS,<sup>15</sup> John M. Mandrola, MD,<sup>16</sup> Saman Nazarian, MD, PhD, FHRS,<sup>17</sup> Kristen K. Patton, MD,<sup>18</sup> Marc A. Rozner, PhD, MD, CCDS,<sup>19,†</sup> Robert J. Russo, MD, PhD, FACC,<sup>20</sup> Win-Kuang Shen, MD, FHRS,<sup>21,‡</sup> Jerold S. Shinbane, MD, FHRS,<sup>22</sup> Wee Siong Teo, MBBS (NUS), FRCP (Edin), FHRS,<sup>23,‡</sup> William Uribe, MD, FHRS,<sup>24,§§</sup> Atul Verma, MD, FRCP, FHRS,<sup>25</sup> Bruce L. Wilkoff, MD, FHRS, CCDS,<sup>26</sup> Pamela K. Woodard, MD, FACR, FAHA<sup>27,\*,†,§§</sup>

**Document Reviewers:** Luis Aguinaga, MD; Timothy S.E. Albert, MD, FACC; Peter F. Aziz, MD, FHRS; Alec Block, MD; Peter Brady, MB, ChB, MD; Mina Chung, MD, FACC; Michael Dominello, DO; Andrew E. Epstein,

## 2017 HRS expert consensus statement on magnetic resonance imaging and radiation exposure in patients with cardiovascular implantable electronic devices

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resonance; NR = nonrandomized; PM = pacemaker; POR = power-on  
 1547-5271/\$-see front matter © 2017 Published by Elsevier Inc. on behalf of Heart Rhythm Society. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hrthm.2017.04.025>



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## ProPatient. ProMRI.

### MRI AutoDetect

A dedicated sensor that automatically detects the MR environment

Minimum time in MRI mode intended to improve patient experience

Increases efficiency and flexibility for providers

Optimizes workflow and reduces administrative burden on clinic and healthcare system

Improves flexibility and access to MRI environment

Sensor on for up to 14 Days

MRI AutoDetect Enabled  
No programming after scan

Async pacing,  
ICD OFF  
only during scan

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## ProMRI

### MRI diagnostics are growing in importance

- Number of MRI diagnostic scans continues to increase
- Medical applications involving MRI are growing

### Device patients are more prone to require MRI diagnostics

- Age and comorbidities contribute to this need
- Trend likely to continue into future

75% of patients with a cardiac implantable electronic device will need an MRI during their lifetime.<sup>4</sup>



More than 3 out of 4 adults aged 65 years or older have two more chronic conditions.<sup>5</sup>

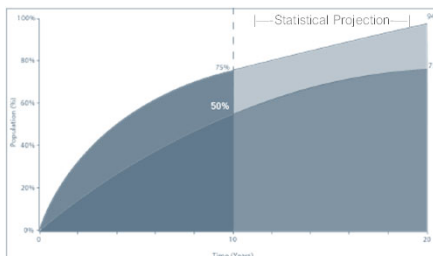
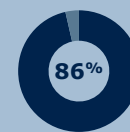


Figure 1: MRI/MRA use by matched ICD-likely patients and forecasted need projected to 20 years.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

1. Gimbel JR, et al. PACE. 2015; 38(12).  
 2. Kalin R, et al. PACE. 2005; 28(4).  
 3. Nazarian S, et al. JACC. 2015; 65.  
 4. Roguin A, et al. Europace. 2008; 10(3).  
 5. Osborn R, et al. Health Affairs. 2014; 33(12).

## Why Offer MRI AutoDetect/MRGuard 24/7?

Designed to:

- Improve patient safety
- Increase provider efficiency
- Expand scheduling flexibility
- Reduce administrative burden on the healthcare system



## How Is MRI AutoDetect/MRI Guard 24/7 Different from First-Generation MRI Systems?

- One programming step (no post-scan programming required)
- Automatic programming change when in MRI field to reduce time in asynchronous pacing and time without therapy for ICDs
- Geographic flexibility for patient and provider
- Programmed up to 14 days (AutoDetect) or certified for up to a year (MRI Guard 24/7)
- Expected to reduce administrative burden on imaging staff
- May allow for more patients to be scanned

## What is typical workflow for device patient requiring MRI?

### Conventional MRI Workflow

Optimal Therapy Mode



Implant

Programming to MRI mode for every scan



Permanent MRI Mode

MRI scan

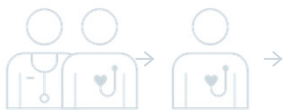
Optimal Therapy Mode



Reprogramming to previous settings after every scan

### MRI Guard 24/7 Workflow

Optimal Therapy Mode



Implant, System check, MRI mode setting, Sensor activation

Sensor always on and certified for up to 1 year

Sensor automatically detects MRI environment. No programming needed

Temporary MRI Mode



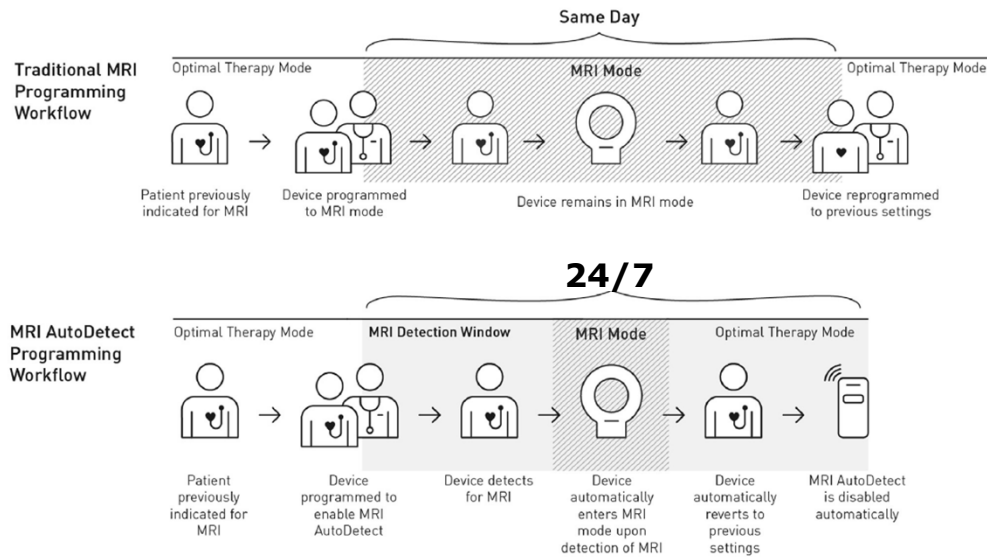
MRI scan

Optimal Therapy Mode



Home Monitoring sends full status report after each scan. No patient involvement

## What is typical workflow for device patient requiring MRI?



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## How Does the Sensor Technology Work?



Previous-generation devices only had magnet mode. That sensor was designed to respond to a magnetic field strength of 1.5 mT (millitesla).

Devices equipped with MRI AutoDetect have a second sensor that responds to a magnetic field strength of 10 mT. Once the 10 mT criterion is met, the devices switch to MRI mode. Within one minute of removal from the 10 mT field, original programming is restored.

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## Summary: MR and CT Imaging in the CIED Patient

- MR imaging of 'conditional' and 'nonconditional' CIED has been performed safely
- Strict adherence to protocol must be followed.
- Pacemaker dependent patients can undergo MR imaging if clinically indicated
- Interpretation of thoracic MR images of a CIED patient may be impacted by artifact from the CIED
- Diagnostic CT in a patient with a CIED is fine; CIED should be excluded from field of view of 4D CT and cone-beam CT scans if possible

## All but which of the following have been demonstrated to "have the potential" to interfere with device function?

1. Industrial welding equipment
2. Keyless car openers
3. Anti-theft devices (electronic article surveillance equipment)
4. Traditional telephone land-line
5. Laptop computer

## EMI: Potential Non-Hospital Sources

- Electronic article surveillance (anti-theft) equipment
- Specific work environments
  - Welding equipment
  - Degaussing equipment
  - Industrial combustion equipment
- Miscellaneous sources capable of 1-beat inhibition

## Which of the following is FALSE regarding a variety of “common” (?) sources of EMI and miscellaneous issues?

1. Use of welding equipment < 200 amps is of no clinical concern
2. Microwave ovens are of no concern
3. Normally functioning household appliances are of no concern
4. Therapeutic radiation can damage a device



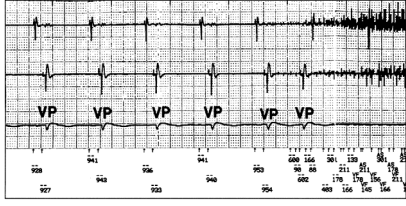
## Cellular Phones and Implantable Devices

- No significant risk with commercially available phones
- Activated phone should not be held or worn over the pulse generator, within 6 inches
- Phone should ideally be used at the ear contralateral to the pulse generator

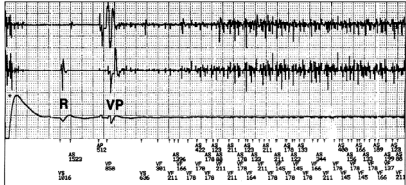
## Regarding anti-theft equipment, patients with CIED should be instructed to:

1. Stay at least 3 feet away
2. Walk directly through equipment
3. Completely avoid with high-voltage CIED
4. Present CIED ID to management before entering and exiting facility to disable equipment

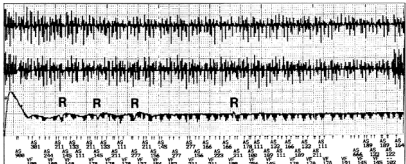
Pacemaker dependent with ventricular pacing (VP); last VP due to atrial tracking of EMI




ICD discharge followed by redetection and Pacemaker inhibition with syncope



Second ICD discharge and redetection



Santucci, et al. NEJM 1998;339:1371-1374  
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## Response to Anti-theft Equipment


### Possible Device Response

- Asynchronous pacing
- Atrial oversensing
- Ventricular oversensing
- Extrasystoles (EAS induced secondary to direct induction of current by the magnetic field)

### Clinicians should advise

- Any risk from EAS systems is negligible when walking through normally
- Do not lean over or against EAS gates
- Do not linger in store doorways
- Move away from EAS if symptomatic

McIvor, CVR&R, Jan '99:11  
Groh, et al. Circ 1999;100:387  
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## EMI and Implantable Devices

- Patient education is key
- Pulse generator shielding continues to improve allowing a greater level of comfort
- New sources of EMI must be evaluated specifically for device interference

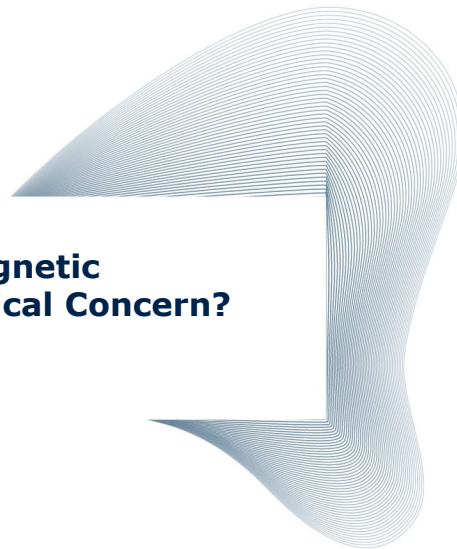
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## When is Electromagnetic Interference a Clinical Concern?

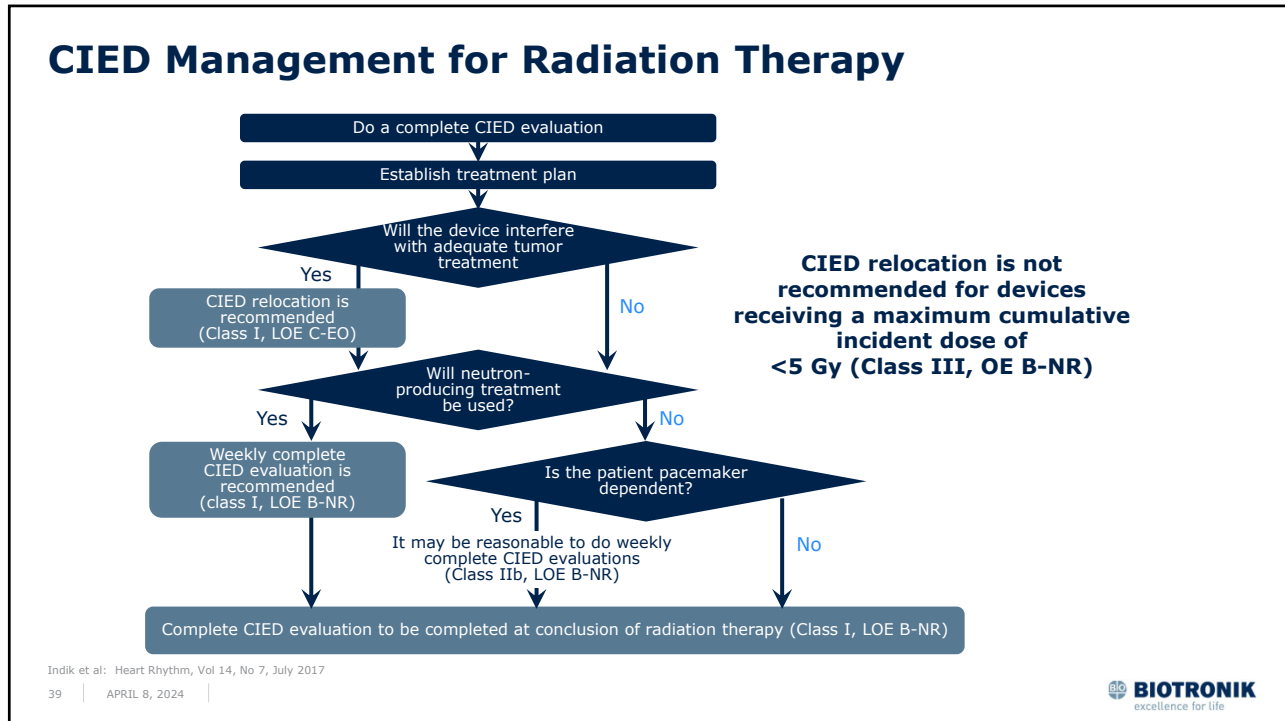
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## Checklist for Performance of Radiation Treatment

### CIED Clinic Checklist

- 1 CIED implantation date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 CIED implant indication: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Device manufacturer and model: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Pacing-dependent (intrinsic HR <40 bpm): Yes [ ] No [ ]
- 5 Complete weekly CIED evaluation recommended: Yes [ ] No [ ]
- 6 System features:
  - Pacemaker/CRT-P [ ] ICD/CRT-D [ ]
  - Pacing mode: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Minimum pacing rate: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Maximum tracking rate: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Maximum sensor rate: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Measurements of the pacing system function and parameters are stable: Yes [ ] No [ ]
- 7 CIED evaluation following completion of radiation therapy:
  - Measurements of the pacing system function and parameters are stable: Yes [ ] No [ ]
  - Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Indik et al: Heart Rhythm 14:e97, 2017  
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## Manufacturer Recommendations Regarding Safe Radiotherapy in PM/ICD Patients

Recommendation	BIOTRONIK	Boston Scientific
Device checks		
Before RT course	Yes	Specific to each patient
During RT course	Not stated	Specific to each patient
After RT course	Yes, including a supplementary follow-up shortly after RT	Yes, including subsequent close monitoring of the device function
Maximal PM dose	2 Gy	No safe dose (2 Gy as a reference)
Maximal ICD dose	2 Gy	No safe dose (2 Gy as a reference)
Maximal beam energy	<10 MV	Not stated
Inactivation of antitachycardia therapies	Yes	Yes
Lead shielding of the device	Yes	All available shielding options, including both internal shielding within the LA and external shielding of the patient
Heart rhythm monitoring during RT	Yes	As determined most appropriate by the physician team

Zeremba, et al. PACE 2015;35:343-356

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## Manufacturer Recommendations Regarding Safe Radiotherapy in PM/ICD Patients

Recommendation	Medtronic	St. Jude Medical
Device checks		
Before RT course	Not stated	Not stated
During RT course	Yes (if recommended safe dose is exceeded)	Yes (a detailed evaluation once or twice during the RT course in PM-dependent patients)
After RT course	Yes	Yes
Maximal PM dose	5 Gy	No safe dose
Maximal ICD dose	1-5 Gy depending on model	No safe dose
Maximal beam energy	≥10 MV	Not stated
Inactivation of antitachycardia therapies	Yes	Yes
Lead shielding of the device	No (ineffective against neutrons)	Not stated (reduction in the device dose is recommended)
Heart rhythm monitoring during RT	Not stated	Yes

Zeremba, et al. PACE 2015;35:343-356

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## Summary: Radiation Therapy in the CIED Patient

- Determine maximum cumulative incident radiation dose the CIED will receive, if < 5 Gy, do not move
- Consider relocating the CIED if cumulative dose will be > 5 Gy and/or the device will impede effective Rx of tumor
- Frequency of CIED evaluation dependent on whether radiation treatment is neutron-producing

In the event the patient is pacemaker dependent, and the site of the radiation is at or within 10 cm of the pacemaker site, it is recommended that the pacemaker or ICD be moved to another site.