Questions you may want to ask your doctor

when they recommend a heart device (ICD or CRT-D)



Why do I need a heart device?			
What are my alternatives to an implant?			
Can't medications help with my condition?			
How does this heart device work?			
Where will the device be placed?			
How will it be implanted? Under the skin or under the muscle?			
What will the scar look like when it heals?			
Will the device move after implant?			
What restrictions should I follow post implant, and for how long?			
Can I return to exercise after my implant and recovery?			
When can my partner and I return to intimacy?			
Will the implant impact my career/hobbies? (Write down job functions or hobbies for your doctor that are of concern. Examples: driving a forklift or truck for work, working with machinery near-by, hobbies/activities like swimming, golfing, tennis, hunting, welding, etc)			
 Will I feel my device working? Will I feel pacing? Will I feel a shock? What does a shock feel like? 			



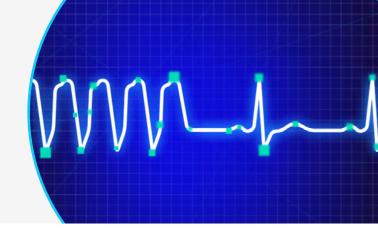




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Develop a shock plan with your physician by asking:What should I do if I am shocked once?Multiple times?	Can I be near common magnets? What happens when I get too close to a magnet and the device emits a tone?
 Will anyone touching me during a shock feel the shock or get hurt? 	Can you demonstrate the sounds my device could make?
Do I need to contact my clinic if I fall or painfully bump my device?	What do the different sounds mean?What should I do when I hear each of the sounds?
How long will my device battery last and how will I know when to replace it?	Am I a candidate for remote monitoring?
Can I get an MRI scan in the future?	 How does remote monitoring work? Is there anything specific I need to do, or does it work without my interaction?
Can I safely travel through airports and on planes after my surgery?	What resources are available to me should I have any further questions?
What kinds of household items can interfere with my device and what precautions should I take?	

This list of questions was developed with the help of the "Living with an ICD" patient support group https://www.facebook.com/groups/icdsupport/

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Responses to a treatment may vary from patient to patient. Always consult your physician if you have any questions or concerns about your health.

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