

EMERGENCY ICD DEACTIVATION

HOW TO USE A MAGNET

When a clinical decision has been made with the agreement of the Cardiologist to deactivate the shock therapy of an ICD, a magnet can be used temporarily to deactivate the device in urgent 'out of hours' situations.

The Cardiology Department (01823 342953) should be contacted ASAP during normal working hours to formally deactivate the device.

PLEASE NOTE: Any magnet will affect the functioning of an ICD

- Place magnet directly over ICD, the ICD is usually positioned on the upper left chest, see pictures below or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1E4oet5-toA>. If the patient has an S-ICD this may be found on the patients left side under their arm (Please note an S-ICD may sound an audible alarm to confirm magnet position in some instances)
- Chest hair may need to be shaved prior to application of magnet.
- Securely tape magnet over ICD using Mefix or a foam adhesive dressing, write the time and date on the dressing.
- Leave magnet in place over ICD.
- **REMOVE the magnet for 2 seconds every 7.5 hours** (also check for pressure damage and trauma when removed) if the magnet has been in place for 8 hours the device is reactivated, and the therapies turned back on.
- Ensure Cardiology Dept. is contacted (working hours Monday-Friday 08:30-17:00)
- The magnet will NOT affect the brady /CRT pacing function of the ICD.
- After use the magnet can be cleaned and re-used or order a replacement from the Arrhythmia Nurses: 01823 343595

