

SFHCHDFE1

Programme and monitor implanted antiarrhythmic devices



Overview

This standard covers the follow up procedures required for individuals with implanted antiarrhythmic devices e.g. pacemakers and implantable cardioverter defibrillators. This may include programming the devices for optimal performance, checking the device is functioning normally and that the individual's condition is stable.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 confirm the individuals' identity and ensure that they have given their informed consent for the procedure to be carried out
- P2 ensure compliance with infection control policy appropriate to the procedure
- P3 check that correct equipment is available and fully functioning
- P4 ensure that the individual is positioned appropriately for the intervention, in a way that optimises their comfort, in line with relevant protocols and guidelines
- P5 test and interrogate implanted antiarrhythmic devices
- P6 differentiate between relevant and irrelevant data and identify deviations from normality and possible causal factors
- P7 monitor the individual for normal or abnormal responses
- P8 recognise and act upon complications that may arise, including any abnormalities in the functioning of the antiarrhythmic device
- P9 predict remaining battery life in order, if necessary, to plan for replacement
- P10 programme the device for optimal performance in line with parameters appropriate to the individual's needs
- P11 provide complete, accurate and legible factual data to relevant personnel with the required degree of urgency
- P12 confirm the arrangements for on-going monitoring appropriate to the needs of the
- P13 give appropriate support and advice to the individual
- P14 respect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the individual throughout your interaction with them
- P15 evaluate safe completion of the procedure and the individual's readiness to leave
- P16 maintain accurate records for future analysis and audit purposes, including data indicating deviations from expected responses

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 electrophysiology and cardiac anatomy
- K2 pathogenesis and prognosis of arrhythmias
- K3 methods of presentation of arrhythmias, their aetiology, recognition and management
- K4 the properties of different types of antiarrhythmic devices
- K5 how to test and interrogate antiarrhythmic devices
- K6 how to recognise and manage complications arising from antiarrhythmic devices
- K7 optimisation of the device to meet the individual's needs and achieve safe maximisation of battery life
- K8 policy and procedure for checking devices and how to report significant problems to the appropriate regulatory agency
- K9 how to obtain information, guidance and up-dates from manufacturers and national databases
- K10 how to record alerts and warnings issued by device manufacturers
- K11 types of changes in individuals that would give rise for concern
- K12 actions to take and who to contact if there are key changes in the conditions of individuals
- K13 current recommendations regarding fitness to drive
- K14 how to report any suspected malfunction of the device, generator or leads
- K15 the range of services provided by the local GP, coronary heart disease services and other professionals, and how to access these services
- K16 the details of the local, regional and national support groups available.
- K17 methods of obtaining informed consent and how to confirm that sufficient information has been provided on which to base this judgement
- K18 the actions to take if informed consent cannot be obtained
- K19 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language or special needs)
- K20 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K21 the importance of providing individuals with opportunities to ask questions and increase their understanding
- K22 the principle of confidentiality and what information may be given to whom

SFHCHDFE1

Programme and monitor implanted antiarrhythmic devices

Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and Treatments

SFHCHDFE1

Programme and monitor implanted antiarrhythmic devices

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version number	1
Date approved	June 2010
Indicative review date	June 2012
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	CHD FE1
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Health Professionals; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Coronary Heart Disease
Key words	coronary heart disease