

# EVENT RECORDER IMPLANTATION

## IMPLANTATION EINESEREIGNISREKORDERS (EVENTREKORDER)

Information and medical history for patients for preparation of the required pre-procedure interview with the doctor

Clinic / Doctor:



Patient data:

englisch

Procedure scheduled to take place on (date):

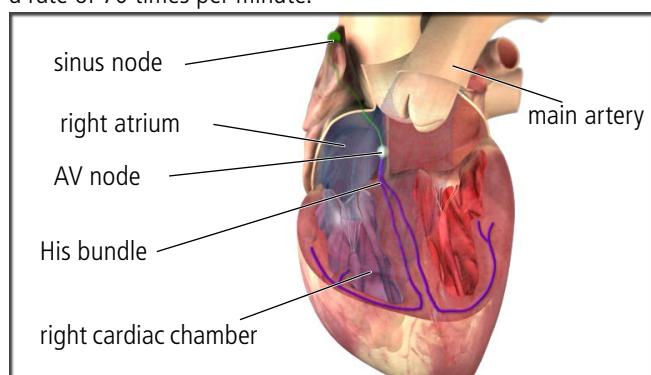
## Dear patient,

In order to determine the cause of your cardiac arrhythmia, the implantation of an event recorder has been planned in your case. With the help of this device, your heart rhythm can be monitored over an extended period of time.

The following text is intended to prepare you for your pre-procedure interview with the doctor. During the interview, the doctor will explain to you the advantages and disadvantages of the scheduled procedure compared with alternative methods available, and inform you of any risks specific to your case. The doctor will answer all of your questions in order to reduce any fears or concerns you may have. You may then consent to the procedure suggested to you. Your doctor will provide you with a copy of the completed and signed form after the interview.

### FUNCTION OF THE HEART

The heart consists of two atria and two chambers. The heart's own electrical impulses maintain a regular heartbeat. These impulses are normally produced by special muscle cells in the right atrium, the so-called sinus node, and are then transmitted via the muscles of the atria. This leads to the atria contracting and pumping the blood into the cardiac chambers. A second group of muscle cells, the so-called AV node, then picks up the signal and transmits it via a special bundle of fibres (His bundle) to the cardiac chambers. The chambers contract shortly after the atria and, by doing so, pump the blood into the aorta and the lungs. In a healthy adult in a resting state, the heart normally beats at a rate of 70 times per minute.



If any malfunctions occur during the development or transmission of the electrical impulses, the heart will end up beating arrhythmically, which is then referred to as cardiac arrhythmia. The heart will then beat too rapidly, too slowly or irregularly. This may lead to the body not being supplied with sufficient amounts of oxygen and to dizziness, faintness or fainting as a result.

### COURSE OF PROCEDURE

An event recorder is designed to record cardiac arrhythmia over an extended period of time. An event recorder is particularly

useful for patients whose arrhythmia only occurs on occasion and irregularly, patients who suffer from sudden fainting spells, or to monitor the therapeutic success after catheter ablation.

The procedure is carried out under a local anaesthetic and only takes a few minutes. If need be, a mild sedative or sleep-inducing drug can be administered to you. The doctor will then make an incision of a few centimetres length on the left side of your chest between the first and the fourth rib. He will then form a small "pouch" underneath the skin and insert the event recorder. Afterwards, the incision will be sutured with small stitches.

The event recorder is small and can remain inside the body for 12 months or longer if need be. It automatically records major changes in heart rhythm. Additionally, the patient can control the recording via a remote control device when the arrhythmia occurs. The data can then be transferred to the doctor on a regular basis via the mobile network (home monitoring) and thus be analysed by the doctor.

After the collection of data has been completed, the event recorder will be removed in the same manner it was inserted in a minor procedure.

### ALTERNATIVE METHODS

As an alternative to event recorder implantation, cardiac arrhythmia can also be recorded via a portable event recorder. This involves the patients placing the external device onto their chest whenever they experience cardiac symptoms and recording the data for a few minutes. This requires the patients being capable of recognising their cardiac arrhythmia symptoms and using the device in a proper manner. If this is not the case, an external recorder can also be fixed to the skin with adhesive electrodes. The device will then record data continuously.

Cardiac arrhythmia can also be recorded via a long-term ECG over a period of 24 hours. However, if the symptoms only occur occasionally, there may not be any changes in heart rhythm within that period of time, meaning there won't be any useful data to record.

Your doctor will explain to you what the alternatives are and why he would recommend the insertion of an event recorder in your particular case.

## PROSPECTS OF SUCCESS

An event recorder is usually a reliable device for diagnosing cardiac arrhythmia. However, even if it is used to monitor the heart rate over an extended period of time, the arrhythmia may still not be recorded. This may then require the use of a different examination method.

In rare cases, the recorder may mistake intense muscle activity for cardiac arrhythmia.

## DIRECTIONS FOR PREPARATION AND AFTERCARE

Please follow the instructions of the doctor and of the nursing personnel closely. Unless specifically instructed otherwise, please adhere to the following guidelines:

### Preparation:

**Medication:** Please inform your doctor of any medication you take or inject on a regular basis (in particular any anticoagulant agents such as Aspirin® [ASA], Marcumar®, Heparin, Plavix®, Ticlopidin, Clopidogrel, Eliquis®, Lixiana®, Xarelto®, Pradaxa® and metformin-containing antidiabetic medicines, so-called biguanides) or have taken irregularly over the course of the past eight days prior to the procedure (for instance pain killers such as ibuprofen, paracetamol). This includes any over-the-counter medication and herbal remedies. Your doctor will let you know if and for how long you should stop taking your medication.

The implantation requires **pre-procedure fasting**. Therefore, you may not eat or drink anything for at least six hours prior to the procedure and must refrain from smoking. Small amounts of clear fluids (e.g. one glass of water) are allowed up until shortly before the implantation.

### Aftercare:

The stitches can be removed a few days after the implantation by your general practitioner.

The event recorder automatically records data and may even transfer it electronically to your doctor. However, if you notice a cardiac arrhythmia event, you should still see your doctor as soon as possible.

You can also control the recorder **autonomously** via remote. Your doctor will provide you with specific instructions.

For as long as the device is in place to record data, seeing your doctor for **regular check-ups** will be required. Please be conscientious in keeping those appointments.

Please inform your doctor immediately or go to the clinic if you experience **bleeding from the wound, swelling, pain** or **intense reddening around the wound** or if you notice **chest pains, severe cardiac arrhythmia** or **shortness of breath**.

If a sedative and/or analgesic has been administered to you, you must be collected by an adult if the examination has been performed **on an out-patient basis**. Also, for a period of **24 hours after the procedure**, you must not actively participate in road traffic (not even as a pedestrian), refrain from any risky activities and avoid taking any important decisions, unless otherwise instructed.

## RISKS, POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

It is well known that **any medical procedure**, even a low-risk procedure such as event recorder implantation, is accompanied by certain **risks**. If complications occur, they may sometimes

require additional treatment or surgery and, in extreme cases, can sometimes even be **life-threatening** or lead to permanent damage – even after some time. Please understand that, for legal reasons, any possible risks associated with this procedure must be listed, even if some of these only occur in exceptional cases. During the interview, your doctor will inform you of any risks specific to your case. You may also choose to waive a detailed explanation. In that event, please pass over this section on risks and confirm your waiver with your signature in the final section of this form.

**Bruising (haematomata)** occasionally occurs around the wound. This may lead to firm, painful swelling. Most of the time, this will disappear even without treatment.

With patients predisposed to delayed wound healing or **wound healing disorder**, painful scarring and abnormal proliferation of scar tissue (keloids) may occur.

**Damage to the skin, soft tissue or nerves** (for instance through bruises, syringe abscess, disinfectants or despite proper positioning) is rare. Numbness, paralysis and pain may then result. They are usually temporary. On rare occasions, these symptoms may persist even after treatment, or scars may remain.

**Infections** can usually be treated with antibiotics. Surgical treatment is only necessary in rare cases. In exceptional cases, an infection that has spread beyond control can lead to **life-threatening blood poisoning** (toxaemia).

**Allergic reactions**, for instance to medication, latex or the event recorder, can lead to skin rash, itching, swelling, nausea and coughing. Severe reactions such as shortness of breath, spasms, tachycardia or **life-threatening circulatory shock** are rare. They may then result in permanent organ damage, such as brain damage, paralyses or kidney failure requiring dialyses. Small nerves in the skin can be severed during surgery and lead to temporary or, in some cases, even permanent **numbness** around the surgical scar.

## Important Questions for Outpatients

Wichtige Fragen für ambulante Eingriffe

Who will pick you up when you are discharged from the hospital/clinic/surgeon's practise? Wer wird Sie abholen, sobald Sie entlassen werden?

Name and age of the person picking you up: [Name und Alter des Abholers]

Where can you be reached within the 24 hours after surgery?

Wo sind Sie in den nächsten 24 Stunden nach dem Eingriff erreichbar?

Street, house number, postcode, place: [Straße, Hausnummer, PLZ, Ort]

Telephone: [Telefonnummer]

Name and age of person looking after you: [Name und Alter der Aufsichtsperson]

Who is your physician (the one whose care you are in/who referred you/family surgeon)? Wer ist Ihr überweisender Arzt / Hausarzt / weiter betreuender Arzt?

Name: [Name]

Street, house number: [Straße, Hausnummer]

postcode, place: [PLZ, Ort]

Telephone: [Telefonnummer]

## Questions about Your Medical History

Please fill in the following questionnaire carefully before your information talk. **Please tick the applicable box!** It goes without saying that your information will be treated confidentially. The information you provide will help the physician to better assess the risks in your particular case, to advise you on the complications that could occur, and to take any steps needed to prevent complications and side effects.

(If certain answers are preselected, please correct them if anything has changed.)

### Information about medications:

Do you regularly require blood thinning medications (anticoagulants) or have you taken any or have any been injected during the past 8 days?  yes  no

Aspirin® (ASS),  Clopidogrel,  Eliquis®,  Heparin,  Marcumar®,  Plavix®,  Pradaxa®,  Efient®,  Brilique®,  Ticlopidin,  Xarelto®,  Iscover®.

**Angaben zur Medikamenteneinnahme:** Benötigen Sie regelmäßig blutgerinnungshemmende Mittel oder haben Sie in der letzten Zeit (bis vor 8 Tagen) welche eingenommen bzw. gespritzt?  Aspirin® (ASS),  Clopidogrel,  Eliquis®,  Heparin,  Marcumar®,  Plavix®,  Pradaxa®,  Efient®,  Brilique®,  Ticlopidin,  Xarelto®,  Iscover®.

Any other: \_\_\_\_\_

Sonstiges: \_\_\_\_\_

When did you take the last dose? \_\_\_\_\_

Wann war die letzte Einnahme?

### Do you take any other medications?

yes  no

Werden andere Medikamente eingenommen?

If so, which ones: \_\_\_\_\_

Wenn ja, bitte auflisten:

(Please include non-prescription medications, herbal and other natural remedies, vitamins, etc.) (Auch rezeptfreie Medikamente, natürliche oder pflanzliche Heilmittel, Vitamine, etc.)

### Are you pregnant?

not certain  yes  no

Sind Sie schwanger?

nicht sicher

### Do you smoke?

yes  no

If so, what and how much daily: \_\_\_\_\_

Rauchen Sie? Wenn ja, was und wie viel täglich:

### Do you have or have you ever had any of the following diseases?

Liegen oder lagen nachstehende Erkrankungen vor:

#### Blood diseases / blood clotting disorders?

yes  no

Increased bleeding tendency (e.g. frequent nose bleeds, increased post-operative bleeding, increased bleeding from minor injuries or after dentist treatment, stronger or longer menstrual bleeding),  tendency to bruise (frequent bruising possibly for no particular reason).

**Bluterkrankung/Blutgerinnungsstörung?**  Erhöhte Blutungs-neigung (z.B. häufiges Nasenbluten, verstärkte Nachblutung nach Operationen, bei kleinen Verletzungen oder Zahnarztbehandlung, verstärkte oder verlängerte Regelblutung),  Neigung zu Blutergüssen (häufig blaue Flecken auch ohne besonderen Anlass).

#### Do you have any blood relatives with signs of blood disease / clotting disorders?

yes  no

Gibt es bei Blutsverwandten Hinweise auf Bluterkrankungen/Blutgerinnungsstörungen?

#### Blood clot (thrombus) / blood vessel occlusion (embolism)?

yes  no

Blutgerinnung (Thrombose)/Gefäßverschluss (Embolie)

### Allergies / Oversensitivity?

yes  no

Medications,  foods,  contrast media,  iodine,  sticking plaster,  latex (e.g. rubber gloves, balloons),  pollen (grass, trees),  anaesthetics,  metals (itching caused by metal spectacles frames, jewellery, jeans buttons).

**Allergie/Überempfindlichkeit?**  Medikamente,  Lebensmittel,  Kontrastmittel,  Jod,  Pflaster,  Latex (z.B. Gummihandschuhe, Luftballon),  Pollen (Gräser, Bäume),  Betäubungsmittel,  Metalle (z. B. Juckreiz durch Metallbrillengestell, Modeschmuck oder Hosennieten).

Any other: \_\_\_\_\_

Sonstiges:

### Metabolic diseases?

yes  no

Diabetes (sugar sickness),  Gout.

**Stoffwechsel-Erkrankungen?**  Diabetes (Zuckerkrankheit),  Gicht.

Any other: \_\_\_\_\_

Sonstiges:

### Communicable (contagious) diseases?

yes  no

Hepatitis,  tuberculosis,  HIV.

**Infektionskrankheiten?**  Hepatitis,  Tuberkulose,  HIV.

Any other: \_\_\_\_\_

Sonstiges:

### Predisposition to impaired wound healing, abscesses, fistulas, excessive scar formation (keloids)?

yes  no

Neigung zu Wundheilungsstörungen, Abszessen, Fisteln, starker Narben-Bildung (Keloide)?

### Any other acute or chronic diseases / illnesses?

yes  no

Nicht aufgeführte akute oder chronische Erkrankungen?

Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Bitte kurz beschreiben:

