

Implantable Loop Recorder (ILR)

Information for patients



Following our discussion in clinic you have been put on to the waiting list for an Implantable Loop Recorder (ILR). An ILR is a very small, metal, battery powered device that records your heart rate and rhythm.

We discussed the pros and cons of using this device to establish a diagnosis in clinic. Hopefully this leaflet will help you remember some of the things that were covered.

Procedure

- Local anaesthetic is used to numb the skin.
- The ILR device is then injected under the skin on the left side of the chest (often next to the breastbone).
- The team will then perform some electrical checks to ensure the device is functioning appropriately.
- Once the device is in place the wound will be closed with glue, steri-strips or stitches.

The procedure time is usually between 5-10 minutes.

Risks

There is a small risk of complication associated with this procedure. Possible complications are summarised below:

- Minor complications such as soreness and bruising are common and usually resolve within a few days. There will be a small scar.
- 1 in 100 people develop a collection of blood under the skin (haematoma). This usually settles with time but may need a repeat procedure.

- 1 in 200 people develop infection after the procedure which requires removal of the device.

Alternatives

An ILR allows us to constantly monitor the heart rhythm over a period of years. If you have symptoms, you can also use the patient activator so we can correlate your symptoms with your heart rhythm at the time. However other options for heart rhythm monitoring, where applicable, should have been discussed with you in clinic.

Further Information

Further information can be found on the internet at <http://www.heartrhythmalliance.org>.

If you have any questions you would like to ask before coming to hospital for your procedure please contact us via the arrhythmia nursing team on **07765 403 828** or **0113 392 5513**

Before your appointment

We encourage you to watch a short video explaining your procedure. Available in multiple languages.

www.explainmyprocedure.com/leeds/procedure/implantable-loop-recorder

OR scan this QR Code

The code to access the video is:
takeheart11221





What did you think of your care?

Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/nhsleedsfft

Your views matter



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