

Devices that May Interfere with ICDs and Pacemakers

We want to share important information about certain devices with magnets and radio elements that create electromagnetic fields. These devices can interfere with your Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) or pacemaker if they are too close to your body. This handout explains how to stay safe if you own these devices.

What devices are we concerned about?

- **Apple iPhone 12, 13, 14, and 15** have magnets and radio elements.
- **MagSafe and MagSafe Duo Wireless Chargers** for Apple iPhones 12, 13, 14, and 15 models also have radio elements.
- **CPAP masks:** Some masks use magnetic clips to fasten the headgear.

What happens if my heart device gets too close to electromagnetic fields?

If these devices are too close to your heart device, they might cause your ICD or pacemaker to either deliver or withhold therapy incorrectly.

What precautions should I take?

- **Apple iPhone** (iPhone 12, iPhone 12 mini, iPhone 12 Pro, iPhone 12 Pro Max, iPhone 13, iPhone SE 3, iPhone 14, iPhone 15), do the following:
 - Keep your phone at least 6 inches away from your heart device.
 - Use the ear opposite your heart device to make calls.
 - Do not carry your phone in a pocket or on a belt within 6 inches of your heart device.
 - To learn more important [safety information from Apple Inc](#), visit their website at: support.apple.com/en-us/HT211900

- **MagSafe and MagSafe Duo Wireless Chargers for Apple iPhone**, do the following:
 - Keep at least a 12-inch distance between your cellphone and your implanted heart device.
- **CPAP mask**
 - Avoid using masks with magnetic clips.

What should I do if I think an item is affecting my heart device?

If you receive a shock, feel dizzy, lightheaded, or notice a change in your heart rate while near these devices, simply release whatever you are touching and move away from them immediately. Your heart device should return to normal operation. If your symptoms continue or do not improve, contact your provider as soon as possible.

What is the number to call?

- On Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Call the FCVC Call Center at **(844) 369-7816, option 1**
- After 5:00 PM or on weekends and holidays: Call Hospital Paging at **(734) 936-6267**
 - Ask to speak with the electrophysiology (EP) fellow on call. Be sure to stay by your phone for a call back.
 - Please use this service only for urgent arrhythmia or device-related matters that cannot wait until the next business day.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition, or your treatment plan.

Author: Bethany Lee-Lehner, RN MSN
 Reviewers: Laura Horwood, NP, Pam Falk, BSN
 Edited by: Brittany Batell, MPH MSW CHES®
 Control #1349

Patient Education by [Michigan Medicine](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International Public License](#). Last revised 04/2025