

WHITING FORENSIC HOSPITAL
Nursing Policy and Procedure Manual

SECTION D: PHYSIOLOGICAL ADAPTATION

CHAPTER 15: EXAMINATION AND SPECIAL TESTS

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE: 15.5 TESTING A PACEMAKER WITH THE
TELETRACE TRANSMITTER**

Standard of Practice:

The Nurse will follow the standards of the Nursing Process when testing a pacemaker with the Teletrace monitor.

Standard of Care:

The patient can expect to safely undergo a pacemaker test by the nurse using the Teletrace Transmitter.

Policy:

The nurse will perform a pacemaker test using the Teletrace Transmitter when ordered.

Procedure:

1. The Teletrace Transmitter may be used to monitor any patient with a pacemaker. More than one patient can use the same machine.
2. All patients will undergo both the non-magnet and magnet tests during the procedure.
3. Explain the procedure to the patient.
4. Turn off nearby appliances if any (TV, Radio, Computer, etc.).
5. Moisten the patient's forearms with tap water.
6. With the palms up, slide the bracelet labeled "right" on the patient's right arm until snug, approximately 3" below the elbow. Repeat with the left arm, using the bracelet labeled "left".

Non-Magnet Test

1. Turn "ON" the transmitter. The transmitter will emit a series of tones indicating that it is ready to use. If you don't hear the tones when you turn the transmitter ON, replace the 9V battery.
2. The technician will call at the prescheduled testing time and location. Call (860) 388-3564 with any difficulties or problems (Middlesex Cardiology).
3. When instructed by the technician, place the mouthpiece of the telephone on the speaker part of the machine.

4. Wait approximately 30 seconds or until the “patient alert” light comes on. Have the patient remain in a quiet and still position while transmitting.
5. Pick up the phone and speak to the technician after completing the transmission.
6. Turn “OFF” the transmitter.
7. Document in a progress note that the test was completed in the Progress Note section of the patient’s chart.
8. Test results will be sent to the patient’s medical provider.

Magnet Test

1. Wait for instructions from the technician prior to initiation.
2. Place the mouthpiece of the telephone on the speaker part of the machine and count to 10.
3. Place the blue magnet over the patient’s pacemaker, on bare skin, and count to 30.
4. Remove the magnet.
5. Pick up the telephone and speak with the technician.
6. Repeat the non-magnet test.
7. Document as per non-magnet test above.

Note: Different pacemakers require different kinds of magnet tests. The technician will instruct you accordingly.

Care and Storage of the Transmitter

1. Clean with disposable gauze with mild soap.
2. Store in locked treatment room. Do not store in the medication room.
3. As the transmitter kit has a powerful magnet, keep at least 3 feet away from medication cart, computers, computer and television-type CRT monitors and all magnetic storage units, such as floppy discs, VCR and cassette tapes, etc.