

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CARDIO PULMONARY POLICY MANUAL
PACEMAKER SYSTEM ANALYSIS**

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Effective Date: May 2005
Cross Referenced:
Reviewed Date: 02/16
Revised Date: 02/16

Policy No: 5.002
Origin: Cardio Pulmonary
Authority: Cardio/Pulmonary Manager
Page: 1 of 2

- Purpose: 1. To provide educational and emotional support for patients receiving pacemaker therapy, and for their families.
2. To verify appropriate pacemaker function.
 3. To assess the patient's condition in relation to his or her pacemaker therapy and to allow inspection of wound site.
 4. To re-program the pacemaker as indicated by the physiological condition of the patient.
 5. To provide expertise to the patient's referring physician.
 6. To predict electrode and/or pulse generator failure.
 7. To provide correlation and appropriate action regarding manufacturer's product alerts.
 8. To provide an opportunity for the patient to discuss in detail, any symptoms or to ask any questions relative to pacemaker therapy.

Personnel: One (1) RN or an RN and Pacemaker technician or Company Rep.

Availability: The majority of clinics are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Voice mail messages are done on an ongoing basis and checked daily Monday through Friday. Clinics will be scheduled on Wednesdays, if a patient cannot visit on a Tuesday or a Thursday due to a transportation issue.

Procedure:

Guidelines for Evaluation Schedules:

I. Single-Chamber System (estimated battery life – 7 - 10 years)

Before discharge, the patient is visited by an RN from the Pacemaker Clinic. An assessment of the patient is done along with teaching of the patient and family member if present.

- A. Initial Clinic Visit (4 weeks following implant) – A complete Pacing System interrogation is performed using specific manufacturer's programmer along with the use of the Optima Testing System.
- B. Continuing Evaluation – patient will be seen again in the Clinic three months after the initial visit for a complete evaluation and then once every 12 months.
- C. At the conclusion of each clinic visit. The patient is given a print-out of their recent pacemaker settings and the date of the next appointment.

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II. Dual-Chamber Systems

- A. Patient will be visited before discharge – same as single-chamber systems.
- B. Initial clinic visit – (4 weeks following implant) – A Complete Pacing System interrogation – same as single-chamber systems.
- C. Continuing evaluation – Patient will be seen in clinic again in three months and twice yearly.
- D. At the conclusion of each clinic visit, the patient is given a print-out of their recent pacemaker settings and the date of the next appointment.