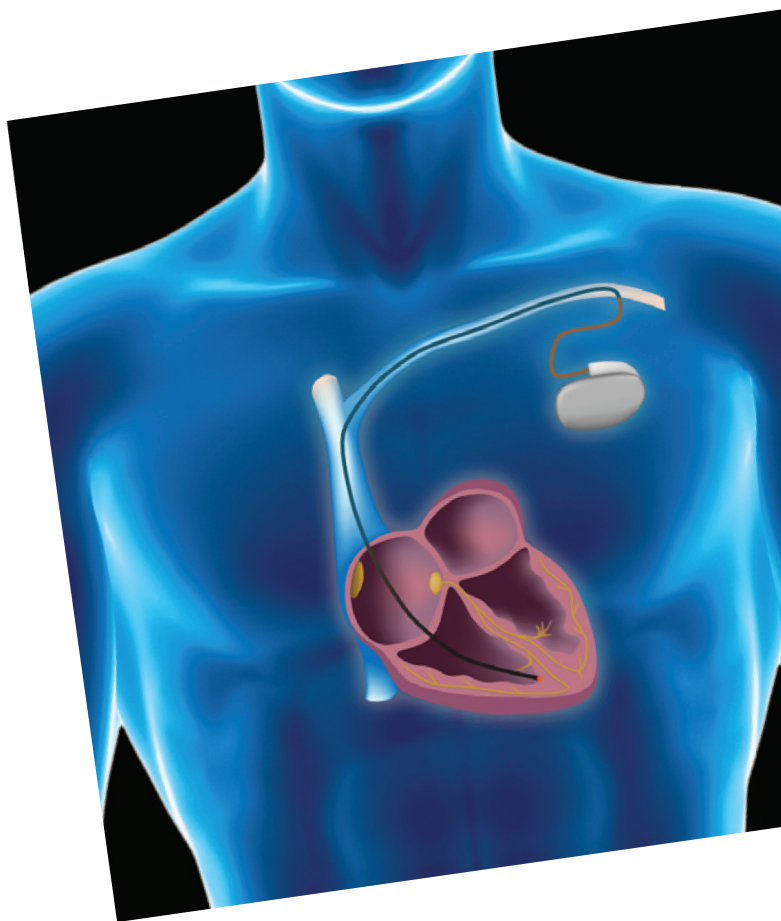


Pacemaker



Cardiology services are provided in the Specialist Outpatient Clinic, Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit and as an inpatient service. A full spectrum of care is provided to cardiac patients as well as healthy individuals who wish to reduce their future risk of cardiovascular disease. Our patients may be referred from the polyclinics or from private practitioners.

What is a cardiac pacemaker?

A pacemaker consists of a pacemaker box and a battery and wire (leads).



What is the purpose of this procedure?

For most people, the heart beats 60 to 100 times per minute when at rest. One of the most common reasons people need a pacemaker is that their heartbeat is abnormally slow. When the heart beats too slowly, the body does not get enough blood and oxygen for it to function properly. A pacemaker operates on demand. If your natural heart rate becomes too slow, it will start operating.

Before the procedure

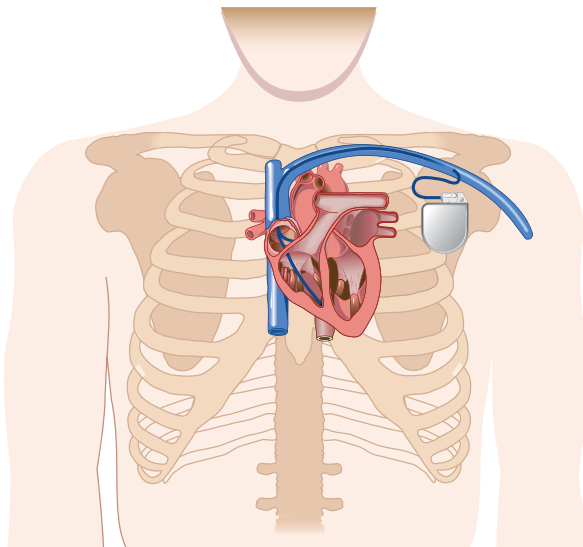
- Refrain from eating and drinking six to eight hours before the procedure.
- Please consult your doctor:
 - if regular medication should be taken on the day of the test
 - if you have chest pain or are feeling unwell
 - if you have any allergies
- Consent is required for this procedure



You are advised to come at least **15 minutes** before your appointment. Please call us in advance to reschedule if you are unable to come.

How is the procedure done?

Local anaesthetic will be given and a small incision will be made below the collarbone. The pacemaker lead will be guided through the vein and into the heart, where it will be anchored either in the atrium or the ventricle. A small 'pocket' will be created under the skin to accommodate the pacemaker box. From the X-ray screen, your doctor will determine the right position of the lead in the heart. After the incision is cleaned, your doctor will conduct some tests on the lead and connect it to the pacemaker.



Is the procedure safe?

Most patients can be discharged one or two days after the implantation. Avoid movements with your shoulder on the side where the pacemaker was implanted over the next few days. You may feel slight pain where the incision was made. You can resume most daily activities within a week. This is a low-risk procedure and complications are minor and can be treated easily.

After the procedure

You are advised to come back for regular follow-up appointments to test the battery and ensure the pacemaker is functioning well. Remember to inform your doctors that you have a permanent pacemaker. For the pacemaker to function normally, it is important that you remember to:

- avoid shortwave diathermy
- avoid Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- avoid using your handphone on the side of the pacemaker

A pacemaker identification card will be sent to you by the manufacturer. Keep it with you at all times and take the medication as prescribed by your doctor.

For more information

Ng Teng Fong General Hospital and Jurong Community Hospital

1 Jurong East St 21, Singapore 609606

www.ntfgh.com.sg | www.jch.com.sg

Clinic opening hours

Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 5.30pm

Saturday: 8.30am – 12.30pm (Selected clinics only*)

Dental Clinic: Monday – Thursday: 8.00am – 5.30pm, Friday: 8.00am – 5.00pm

*Please refer to our websites for more details.

General enquiries & appointments

General enquiries line: 6908 2222 (24-hr)

Fax: 6716 5500 | Email: contactus@nuhs.edu.sg

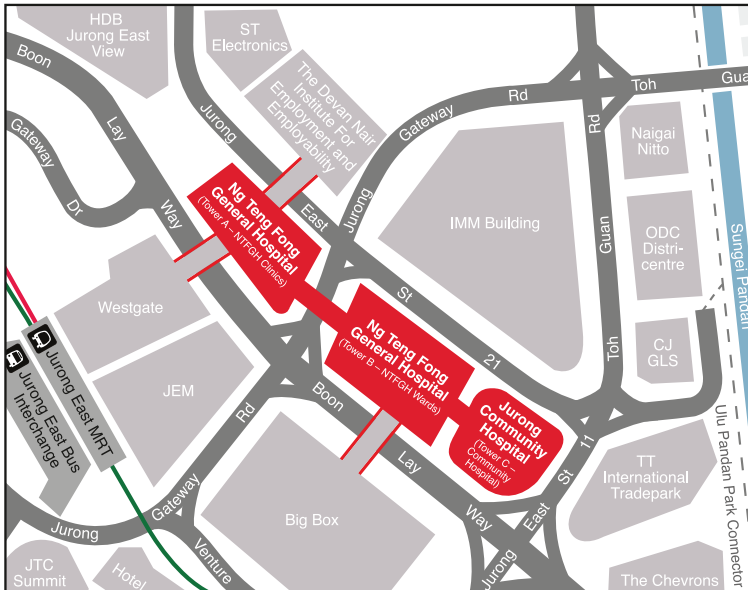
Appointment line: 6908 2222 (Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 5.30pm, Saturday: 8.00am – 12.30pm)

Fax: 6716 2200 | Email: appointment@nuhs.edu.sg

Dental appointment line: 6716 2233 (Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 5.30pm)

Fax: 6716 2200 | Email: JHCampus_Dental@nuhs.edu.sg

Getting there



By train

Alight at Jurong East MRT Station

By bus

Jurong East Bus Interchange

41, 49, 51, 52, 66, 66B, 78, 78A, 79, 79A, 97, 97E, 98, 98M, 105, 143, 143M, 160, 160A, 160M, 183, 183B, 197, 333, 334, 335, 506

Along Boon Lay Way

49, 99, 333, Private bus service 625, 990

Disclaimer:

The information in this brochure is meant for educational purposes and should not be used as a substitute for medical diagnosis or Please seek your doctor's advice before starting any treatment or if you have any questions related to your health, physical fitness or condition. Information is accurate at the time of printing.