LEARNING ABOUT THE CARDIOMEMS™ HF SYSTEM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE CARDIOMEMS HF SYSTEM?
The CardioMEMS™ HF System is the first and only FDA-approved heart failure monitor proven to significantly reduce heart failure hospital admissions and improve quality of life.1

HOW DOES THE CARDIOMEMS HF SYSTEM HELP A HEART FAILURE PATIENT?
Changes in PA pressures are an early indicator of worsening heart failure. This can occur even before the patient notices symptoms such as shortness of breath or weight gain.

The CardioMEMS HF System comes with an electronics unit used at home to take daily measurements of PA pressures. These PA pressure readings are sent wirelessly to a secure website for the clinician to review. This allows the care team to confidently adjust medications without a patient feeling symptoms or needing a hospital or clinic visit.

HOW IS THE CARDIOMEMS™ PA SENSOR IMPLANTED?
The CardioMEMS™ PA Sensor is inserted into the PA during a right heart catheterization procedure.

The doctor will make a small incision and insert a device called a catheter into the femoral vein. Using a fluoroscope (a type of X-ray) to visually guide the placement of the device, the doctor will thread the catheter through the body to the heart and into the PA. Once the catheter is in the right position, the sensor is released into the artery, where it remains permanently. Patients may feel some mild discomfort at the access site during recovery, but should be able to return to normal activities soon after the procedure.

HOW LONG DOES THE CARDIOMEMS PA SENSOR LAST?
The PA sensor does not need a battery or replaceable parts and is intended to last the lifetime of the patient.

CAN A MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI) SCAN BE DONE WITH THE PA SENSOR?
Patients can have an MRI scan under certain conditions. Talk with the doctor ordering the MRI scan to ensure that he or she knows that you have a CardioMEMS PA Sensor.

WILL THE PA SENSOR INTERFERE WITH AN MRI, A PACEMAKER OR AN IMPLANTABLE CARDIOVERTER DEFIBRILLATOR (ICD)?
No, the PA sensor will not interfere with a pacemaker or an ICD, even when a reading is being taken. Patients can have an MRI scan under certain conditions. Talk with the doctor ordering the MRI scan to ensure that he or she knows that you have a PA sensor.

CAN PATIENTS TRAVEL WITH THE CARDIOMEMS HF SYSTEM?
Yes, patients can travel with the CardioMEMS HF System. The home electronics system can be packed in its carrying case and checked as luggage. The PA sensor should not alert airport security when a patient passes through the security checkpoint. A travel letter is available to address any concerns that may arise with TSA, when traveling with your home electronics system.

IS THE PROCEDURE COVERED BY HEALTH INSURANCE OR MEDICARE?
The procedure may be covered by health insurance or Medicare. When you speak to the medical center, after they determine you are a candidate, they can help explain your coverage options.
WHERE CAN A POTENTIAL PATIENT FIND OUT WHAT IT IS LIKE FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE WITH THE CARDIOMEMS™ HF SYSTEM FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPLANTED?

Many patients have shared their stories about how the CardioMEMS™ HF System has impacted their lives. You can view these by visiting www.StayAheadofHF.com.

WHERE CAN ONE GO TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ON HEART FAILURE?

Visit www.StayAheadofHF.com for more information on heart failure.