

ICD Deactivation in COVID suspected/confirmed patients approaching end of life

Inpatients: Acute deterioration and anticipated death

In hours:

ICD deactivation proforma on intranet

(<http://doclib.xcoch.nhs.uk/Documents/DeactivationandReactivationofICD.pdf>)

Discuss with Cardiologist of the Week (COW - available 7 days a week through switch)

Contact CRV department Pacing Team (bleep 3466) for deactivation (available Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

(For deactivation advised to use water resistant surgical mask, glasses, gloves and apron)

Out of hours:

Apply and tape strong magnet across ICD device (found in CCU and Resus) until CRV Pacing team can be contacted for deactivation in working hours. (see overleaf for how to apply)

Patients in community

If patient is in their terminal phase but not acutely dying contact LHCH (Dr Rao and Dr Wright) who would want to discuss and review for ICD deactivation.

If acute deterioration and anticipated death:

COVID negative and able to attend COCH – Contact CRV Department Pacing team (01244365208) to organise review in CRV department for counselling and deactivation of ICD.

COVID positive or not able to attend COCH – Apply and tape strong magnet across ICD device. (Magnet may be provided by CRV department for collection - Contact Pacing team).

After death

In hospital

CRV Pacing team can deactivate ICD in mortuary Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

Removal of ICD will not be occurring in mortuary unless a post-mortem is being conducted.

(Some funeral directors are still removing ICD devices from COVID positive patients in accordance with infection control and prevention guidelines.)

In community

Contact CRV Pacing team for deactivating ICD device in the funeral home.

How to apply magnet to inhibit ICD device

See below for examples of how to apply magnet in correct position¹.

The majority of ICD devices are placed on the left anterior upper chest wall and will be successfully deactivated by application of magnet directly over the ICD device or just off-centre, as shown in figures.

Once magnet is in correct position, beeping will be initiated within a second to confirm inhibition.

It may be necessary to try different positions until beep is heard.

For the Model 1010 SQ-RX™ S-ICD, apply a magnet flat against the skin directly over the implanted device (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Magnet placement for SQ-RX

For the Model A209 EMBLEM™ S-ICD, apply the magnet flat against the skin over the device header or over the lower edge of the device (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Magnet placement for EMBLEM

1: Instructions for Magnet Use. (2015). [online] Available at: https://www.bostonscientific.com/content/dam/bostonscientific/quality/education-resources/english/US_ACL_SICD_Magnet_Use_20150413.pdf