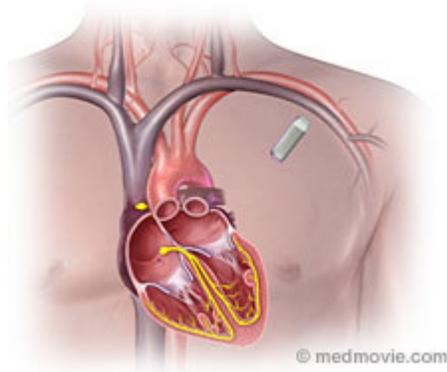


Implantable Loop Recorder



An implantable loop recorder is a small device that is implanted under the skin to help identify the causes of fainting. Syncope (or fainting) is a temporary loss of consciousness. Certain heart disorders can cause fainting, such as abnormal heartbeats called arrhythmias.

An implantable loop recorder is a small device that is inserted under the skin below the collar bone (usually on the patient's left side). The procedure to implant the device is simple. Local anesthetic is injected into the area. A small incision is made and the device is inserted. The skin is then sutured closed. The device continuously records heart activity similar to an ECG for up to 2 years. If the patient

experiences an episode of fainting the device is activated to save the recording before, during, and after the episode. The recordings can then be evaluated by a physician to help determine the cause of fainting.

Your Loop Recorder implantation

The loop recorder implant procedure is performed at the hospital. It is a small operation that can be done as an outpatient in most cases. This means that you do not have to be admitted to hospital and you will usually be able to go home within 2 hours after the operation.

In preparation for the operation, you will be given basic instructions by hospital staff. You will be asked not to eat or drink anything the morning of the operation. Someone else should drive you to the hospital and take you home afterwards. If you are taking medications, please ask the hospital staff contacting you if it is all right to take your pills the morning of the operation.

After you arrive at the hospital and check in at the Admitting Department. You will be met by a nurse who will help you change into a hospital gown, place your valuables in safe-keeping and place you onto a hospital stretcher. Everything will be checked.

in preparation for the operation. The staff will start an intravenous usually in the back of your hand. A doctor will explain the procedure to you, including the risks of the operation. If you are comfortable with the explanation provided, you will be given the consent form to sign which gives permission for the doctor(s) to implant the loop recorder

Risks

As in any medical procedure, there are risks that you should be aware of. The overall risk of something bad happening is only 1-2%. The risks are:

- Collapsed Lung
- Bleeding / bruising
- Infection
- Damage to heart and/or blood vessels
- Blood clots in vein
- Mild pain at the implant site