

# Hybrid AF™ Convergent Therapy: Pre-Op Patient Information

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## Before Your Procedure

### Preadmission Visit and Testing

You may need to have some tests at the hospital where you are having your procedure. Your health care provider will give you instructions about this testing. Testing might involve a blood draw, a chest X-ray, or further tests defined by your health care provider. The hospital health care providers will talk with you and review your history. They will discuss any special needs you may have and answer any questions about your hospitalization.

### Medications

Continue taking your regular medications unless your health care providers tell you otherwise. They may ask you to stop taking certain medications before your procedure, and when to do so. Examples of such medications include antiarrhythmics (heart rhythm drugs), anticoagulants (blood thinners), and/or supplements.

### What to Wear

Take a full body shower the morning of your procedure. Wear comfortable clothes. You will change into a hospital gown before the procedure. Please leave all jewelry and valuables at home. Remove all makeup and nail polish before coming to the hospital.

## At the Hospital

### When You Arrive

On the day of the procedure, you will be asked to arrive at the hospital several hours before your procedure time. A family member or friend might be able to come with you; though it will depend on the hospital visitor policy. A health care provider will ask you more questions, help you get ready, and start an IV (intravenous) line in your arm. The IV delivers medications and fluids during the procedure. The incision sites (in the chest and groin) will be shaved as needed.

A health care provider will give you general anesthesia, so you are fully asleep. A transesophageal echocardiogram "TEE" will be done. This test takes some measurements to check for blood clots in your heart. (If the TEE reveals that you have a clot in your heart, the Hybrid AF Therapy procedure will be cancelled. Your doctor will admit you to the hospital for close observation and will start medication to treat the clot.)

### Epicardial Ablation — Outside of the Heart

A small incision will be made in your chest to gain access to the outside of your heart. After the epicardial ablation, this small incision will be closed with sutures. These sutures will dissolve in 7-14 days; no suture removal will be needed. A drain may be placed in your chest to remove any fluid around the heart.

### Endocardial Ablation — Inside of the Heart

A groin incision will be made to gain access to the inside of your heart. Catheters (long, thin, flexible tubes) are moved through a blood vessel and into your heart. Once the endocardial ablation is complete, pressure will be applied to the site to prevent bleeding. A pressure dressing (bandage) will cover the incision sites. You will need to stay in bed for 6-8 hours after the procedure. It's important to keep your legs still during this time to prevent bleeding.

# Hybrid AF Convergent Therapy: Pre-Op *continued*

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## Your Hospital Stay

For the first 24 hours after the procedure you may be in a high-dependency unit for close observation. On the second day you could be moved to a regular room on the cardiac floor. Your health care providers will monitor your recovery and you may stay in the hospital for about 2-3 days or until your heart medicines and blood thinner are regulated. The health care providers will then prepare you for discharge home. (The drain in your chest will be removed prior to discharge.)

## Post-Procedure Medications

You will receive all medication instructions before you leave the hospital.

## Leaving the Hospital

For your safety, someone must drive you home from the hospital. During your ride home, either by car or plane, please stand up or stretch your legs a few minutes every hour. Plan to rest when you arrive home.

*This material is intended to provide general information, including opinions and recommendations, contained herein for educational purposes only. Such information is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. The material is not intended to direct clinical care in any specific circumstance. The judgment regarding a particular clinical procedure or treatment plan must be made by a qualified physician in light of the clinical data presented by the patient, the diagnostic and treatment options available. Please review the Instructions for use for a complete listing of indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions and potential adverse events prior to using these devices.*

*Individual results may vary. Please consult with your physician regarding your condition and appropriate medical treatment. The devices are used to form scars in the heart tissue. Possible problems during the procedure may result in the formation of unwanted scar tissue, damage to nerve and blood vessels, heart rhythm disorder, blood clots, pooling of fluid in the sac around the heart and tissue tearing or puncture*

**EU Indications:** The Epi-Sense® Guided Coagulation System with VisiTrax® is intended for the coagulation of cardiac tissue using radiofrequency (RF) energy during cardiac surgery for the treatment of arrhythmias including Atrial Fibrillation (AFIB) or Atrial Flutter (AFL)

*Contraindications include patients with Barrett's Esophagitis, left atrial thrombus, a systemic infection, active endocarditis, or a localized infection at the surgical site at the time of surgery.*

*Reported adverse events associated with epicardial ablation procedure may include, but are not limited to, the following: pericardial effusion, excessive bleeding, Pericarditis, phrenic nerve injury, stroke/TIA/neurologic complication. Please review the Instructions for Use for a complete listing of contraindications, warnings, precautions and potential adverse events located at the following AtriCure web address: <https://europe.atricure.com/healthcare-professionals/product-labeling>*

**Rx Only.**