We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.
To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

New Pacemaker / ICD Implant
Cardiology – Clinical Measurements Department
What should I do now?
After the procedure, the device implant site may feel sore and tender. Try to take it easy for the first few days after your procedure.

What should I avoid?
To allow the pacing leads to settle into the heart muscle, you will need to take great care of the arm on the side of the device for approximately 6 weeks post procedure.

Please try not to lift your arm above your head, avoid heavy lifting and pushing up from the bed or a chair. We recommend slow and controlled movements in the affected arm to keep it moving.

You may use a mobile phone, but try to use the opposite ear to the device if possible. Do not keep a mobile phone in the breast pocket of a shirt.

Microwave ovens are perfectly safe to use. Induction hobs are not safe to use.

Please listen to the specific advice from the Cardiac Physiologist about driving restrictions.

How do I look after my Wound?
Please refer to the post implant nursing care sheet you will be given after your procedure.

What does the device check involve?
You will be seen by a Cardiac Physiologist trained in checking these devices.

You may have some electrodes (stickers) placed on your wrists and ankles for an Electrocardiogram (ECG) trace.

Various checks will be made at this check such as battery and lead measurements. The physiologist will then set parameters on your device that are specific to you. You will have the opportunity to ask questions after the device check-up.

What happens after the device check?
You will be given an appointment to attend the Cardiology department at St. Peter’s Hospital in approximately 6 weeks’ time. The physiologist will inform you of the device functioning and what you can / cannot do.

You should have received a device ID card which you should carry around with you at all times. This is helpful to other medical professionals who do not know your medical history. You will also need to produce the ID card at airport security so you do not need to walk through the metal scanners. We recommend that you make a copy of your ‘ID’ in case you lose or misplace the original one.

Further Information
We endeavor to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Manager or Cardiac Physiologist/s on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience Team on 01932 723553 or email asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net. If you remain concerned, the team can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.