

VALLEYCARE
OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER/HEALTH CENTERS
5B - INTENSIVE CARE UNIT
POLICY & PROCEDURE

NUMBER: 5053
VERSION: 1

SUBJECT/TITLE: USE OF TRANSVENOUS PACEMAKER PULSE GENERATOR

POLICY: The pacemaker pulse generator must be cleaned after each patient use.

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines in cleaning/decontamination of Transvenous Pacemaker pulse generator

DEPARTMENTS: Medicine, Nursing 5B - Intensive Care Unit

DEFINITIONS: A Single-Chamber Pacemaker pulse generator is a device that helps produce a regular heart rhythm via precise electrical signals through wires that connect directly to the patient's heart.

PROCEDURE:

1. Washes hands and dons nonsterile gloves.
2. Connects the patient to the bedside monitoring system, & monitor ECG continuously.
3. Assesses pacemaker functioning and inserts new battery into the pulse generator if needed.
4. Attaches the connecting cable to the pulse generator, connecting the "positive" on the cable to the "positive" on the pulse generator and the "negative" on the cable to the "negative" on the pulse generator
5. Determines the mode of pacing desired.
6. Sets the pacemaker mode, pacemaker rate, and level of energy (output or mA) as prescribed or as determined by sensitivity and stimulation threshold.
7. Turns all settings to the lowest level, and then turns the pulse generator on.
8. Gradually turns the sensitivity dial counter clockwise (or to a higher numerical setting), and observes the pace indicator light for flashing.
9. Slowly turns the sensitivity dial clockwise (or to a lower numerical setting) until the sense indicator light flashes with each complex, and the pace indicator light stops. This value is the sensing threshold.
10. Sets the sensitivity dial to the number that was half the sensing threshold to provide a 2:1 safety margin.
11. Sets the prescribed pacemaker rate.
12. Assesses the cardiac rhythm for appropriate pacemaker function.
 - a) Capture: Is there a QRS complex for every ventricular pacing stimulus?
 - b) Rate: Is the rate at or above the pacemaker rate if in the demand mode?

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- c) Sensing: Does the sensitivity light indicate that every QRS complex is sensed?
- 13. After the settings are adjusted for optimal patient response, places the protective plastic cover over the pacemaker controls.

Cleaning the exterior surface

The exterior surface of the Medtronic Single-Chamber Pacemaker pulse generator can be cleaned and disinfected using the recommended cleaner or disinfectant.

- Clean the surfaces using a soft cloth lightly dampened in a mild soap or detergent cleaning solution.
- Wipe the surfaces with the disinfecting solution. PDI Super Sani Cloth is recommended.
- Air dry or towel dry with a clean cloth.

DOCUMENTATION: Nursing Documentation

References: Manufacturer Owner’s Manual AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care, 6 th Ed.	
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