

West Michigan Regional MCC

System Protocol

ICD & Pacemaker Deactivation Policy

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ICD and Pacemaker Deactivation Policy

Adopting MCAs will have an "X" under their MCA name. If no "X" is present, the MCA has not approved or adopted the protocol.

Allegan	Barry	Clare	Ionia	Isabella	Kent	Mason
			X		X	X
Montcalm	Muskegon	N. Central	Newaygo	Oceana	Ottawa	
X	X		X	X	X	

IMPLANTABLE CARDIO-DEFIBRILLATOR (ICD)

The application of this procedure is limited to **paramedics** who have been trained in the ICD deactivation procedure. A direct on-line medical control order is required to perform this skill.

An ICD is an implanted defibrillator device that consists of a lead system that senses cardiac activity, logic circuitry to analyze the sensed signals, a power supply for device function and generating high voltage, and a capacitor that stores and delivers shocks when bradycardia and/or tachyarrhythmias are detected within programmed parameters. These devices may malfunction occasionally.

INDICATIONS:

For verified frequent and recurrent inappropriate ICD discharges, a magnet may be utilized to deactivate devices. Inhibition of ICD devices should be considered only when continuous ECG monitoring and ACLS interventions are readily available.

PROCEDURE:

- A. Contact on-line medical control
- B. Monitor ECG and verify "triggering" rhythm AND inappropriate defibrillator discharge.
- C. Identify the location of the ICD device.
- D. Place donut magnet directly over the ICD device
- E. After defibrillator deactivation, tape magnet firmly in place and transport.
- F. Treat underlying rhythm per ACLS protocols.

PRECAUTIONS:

- A. It is very important to make the correct diagnosis before utilizing this protocol (ECG showing "triggering" rhythm and indications of recurrent ICD discharges).
- B. Some ICD devices will emit varying beeping or continuous tones when magnets are applied, others will not. Disregard these tones.
- C. If the magnet placement is successful in overriding the pulse generation of an ICD, **DO NOT REMOVE THE MAGNET**. Some units will return to operation after removal of the magnetic.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. Magnets should be stored so as not to come in contact with magnetic sensitive materials, i.e., tapes, credit cards, magnetic door entry cards and other electronic equipment.
- B. A small percentage of ICDs are impervious to magnetic fields (ICD recipients who work around magnetic fields have these special units) and will not be deactivated with the doughnut magnet. In such cases, advise on-line medical control and transport.
- C. Consider the use of the ICD magnet in deactivating cardiac pacemaker malfunctions.
- D. Identification information of the ICD type, date implanted and location of implantation (location of device usually indicated on a wallet card) should accompany the patient to the emergency department.