

WHAT IS A LASER LEAD EXTRACTION?

Laser lead extraction is a procedure to remove the leads or wires of a pacemaker or ICD. The leads are the wires that deliver the electrical pulses to the heart. Leads are meant to be permanent, but in some cases they may need to be removed.



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LASER LEAD EXTRACTION

Informational
Pamphlet

PRE-PROCEDURE

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Do not eat for 6-8 hours, or the night before the procedure.
- Notify Dr. Yoo about any medication being taken and follow instructions on whether to continue or stop them before the procedure.

POST-PROCEDURE

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Do not drive for 24 hours after the procedure.
- Notify Dr. Yoo about any symptoms you have such as bleeding, swelling, dizziness, numbness, or increased pain.
- Refrain from strenuous activity for 3-4 days after the procedure, and follow Dr. Yoo's instructions on when to return to normal activity.

WHAT HAPPENS?

In the hospital, you will be given general anesthesia and Dr. Yoo will make an incision near your shoulder, likely in the same place as the initial pacemaker/ICD incision.

The battery will be removed and disconnected from the leads. A sheath with a laser will be threaded around the lead, and then the laser will remove the scar tissue around the tip of the lead. This dislodges the lead from the heart tissue and allows it to be removed.

Dr. Yoo may replace or remove the lead or battery depending on your situation. The incision will be closed.

This procedure takes 2-4 hours. You will be moved to a recovery area to be monitored for a couple hours after the procedure. You may also be monitored overnight.

ADDITIONAL

RESOURCES:

For more information, please refer to your surgical booklet.

You may also refer to these websites:

www.uwhealth.org



www.hopkinsmedicine.org

