If you are experiencing any of the symptoms explained in this guide, don't delay! Call the clinic where you have your device checked.

### For information visit www.deviceinfection.com

Physician name:	
Phone number:	
Address:	



upbeat.org/ cied-management  Greenspon, Arnold J., et al. "16-Year Trends in the Infection Burden for Pacemakers and Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillators in the United States1993 to 2008." Journal of the American College of Cardiology 58.10 (2011): 1001-1006.

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- Sohail, M.R., et al. (2007). Management and outcome of permanent pacemaker and implantable cardioverterdefibrillator infections. JACC, 49(18), 1851-1859.

### Philips

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# PHILIPS

Image Guided Therapy

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# What's in your pocket? Your guide to cardiac device health

### Heart Rhythm Society

Recognized as a quality educational resource by the Heart Rhythm Society

# Your implanted cardiac device gives you peace of mind and adds to the quality of your life.

It is important, however, to pay close attention to the pocket, the location where your device is implanted to ensure that the site continues to be healthy and free from signs of infection.

While infections are rare, the incidence of cardiac device infection is on the rise<sup>1</sup> It is important to contact your electrophysiologist or the physician who manages your device right away if you notice any symptoms.

More than 6 out of 10 cardiac device infections may undertreated

# Monitor your pocket and overall health.

Pay close attention to any changes in the appearance of your pocket. Taking a picture of your pocket from time to time can be an easy way to monitor suspicious changes.

A device infection may not always start in the pocket. An infection may originate elsewhere in the body, travel through the bloodstream and attach to the device. In this case you may notice general symptoms of fever, nausea, fatigue or a prolonged period of 'just not feeling well.'

Symptoms of infection may include:<sup>3</sup>

## Visual signs of infection mav include:<sup>3</sup>

- Fever
- Chills
- Nausea
- Sweating
- Fatigue

- Redness of the skin
- Pain/tenderness
- Swelling
- Warmth or a "hot" feeling
- Blood, pus or other drainage
- Skin ulcers
- Frosion of the device through the skin

The skin around your pocket should be healthy and have the same appearance as the same area on the other side of your chest Early signs of infection may appear as redness, swelling or a hot feeling



Infections may become badly swollen and develop lesions or skin ulcers Advanced infection may cause the device to protrude or actually come out of the body