

Your child's cardiac reveal device

Information for patients, parents and guardians

We have given you this factsheet because your child has had a small operation to fit an implanted cardiac device called Reveal LINQ.

We hope that this factsheet answers some of your questions. If you need any further information, you can contact us.

What is a cardiac reveal device?

The reveal device allows your child's cardiac care team to monitor the electrical activity in your child's heart.

As well as the small, implanted device, you will use a patient activator and download box. It records periods of slow, fast or irregular heart rhythm which is automatically sent through to us.

You can use the patient activator to 'mark' any cardiac symptoms your child reports. We will show you how to use this before you go home.

You should keep the download box plugged in in your child's bedroom at all times.

You can visit the Medtronic website for more information on setting up and living with a Reveal LINQ.

www.medtronic.com

Please note that any phone numbers given in the videos are not for UK use.



Implanted reveal device in comparison to AA battery



Patient activator



Carelink monitor or 'download box'

Your child's cardiac reveal device

How does it work?

The device records heart rhythms outside of the normal limits set for your child called 'alerts'. Once a day, the carelink monitor scans the device for alerts and sends them to the hospital automatically. There must be a mobile phone signal where the monitor is. Your child must be in range of the monitor for a short period each day for this to happen.

If your child experiences symptoms, you should press the activator and perform a manual download as soon as you are in range of the monitor.

The cardiac rhythm management (CRM) team will analyse any alerts and will call you to perform a full download if necessary.

If the carelink monitor breaks or malfunctions, the device will continue to monitor your child's heart. You can download any alerts when your monitor is working.

If you have any technical difficulties, you should contact Medtronic UK on telephone: **0330 123 2112**, or the CRM department on telephone **023 8120 6404**.

Frequently asked questions

What do we do after a manual download?

The CRM team will contact you if the download shows anything abnormal or unexpected. If the download is normal you will not be contacted. If you are concerned that the download has not gone through, you can contact the CRM department on telephone **023 8120 6404** to check (Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm).

If you would like advice about your child's symptoms between these hours, contact the cardiac nurse specialists on telephone: **023 8120 4659**. For advice outside of these hours, please contact E1 Ocean ward on telephone: **023 8120 6470**.

If you have downloaded data in the evening, at the weekend or a bank holiday, you can contact E1 Ocean ward on telephone: **023 8120 6470** and ask to speak to the paediatric cardiology registrar.

In an emergency, always call 999.

Can we travel abroad with the monitor?

Yes, but often this is not necessary. The reveal will record alerts whilst you are away which can be downloaded on your return home.

We recommend that you speak to the children's cardiac nurse specialists on telephone: **023 8120 4659** before you travel to find out if you need to take your child's monitor abroad.

When travelling abroad, you should always:

- find out the nearest hospital
- take out travel health insurance
- take your child's recent clinic letters
- take a good supply of your child's medication and a prescription.

How do we care for the wound?

In your child's operation, they had a small surgical cut to insert the device. You should keep the dressing on the wound for three days. Keep it clean and dry. Once they have had the dressing removed, keep the area clean and dry until the wound has healed and monitor for signs of infection which include:

- redness
- soreness
- swelling
- discharge
- high temperature
- sudden severe pain in wound site.

If you are worried about the wound, contact the cardiac nurse specialists on telephone: **023 8120 4659**. Our opening hours are 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Outside of these hours, contact E1 Ocean ward on telephone: **023 8120 6470**.

Useful links

Families of Ocean ward provides support to parents of children with congenital heart problems cared for by Southampton Children's Hospital cardiac team.

www.oceanward.co.uk

For information about arrhythmias and cardiac conditions in children, the following websites may be useful.

British Heart Foundation

www.bhf.org.uk/heart-health/children-and-young-people

Arrhythmia Alliance: The Heart Rhythm Charity

www.hearrhythmalliance.org/aa/uk/for-patients

Contact us

Children's cardiac nurse specialists.

Telephone: **023 8120 4659**.

Our working hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

For advice outside of these hours, please contact E1 Ocean ward on telephone: **023 8120 6470**.

Cardiac rhythm management (CRM).

Telephone: **023 8120 6404**.

Email: crm@uhs.nhs.uk

Our working hours are Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm.

For urgent enquiries outside of these hours, you should call E1 Ocean ward on telephone: **023 8120 6470** and speak to the on call cardiology registrar.

Medtronic Helpline

Telephone: **0330 123 2112**.

Ocean ward (24 hours)

Telephone: **023 8120 6470**.

In an emergency, you should call 999 and ask for an ambulance.

If you need a translation of this document, an interpreter or a version in large print, Braille or on audiotape, please telephone **023 8120 4688** for help.

www.uhs.nhs.uk/childrenshospital

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