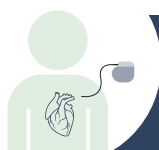


NACRM AT A GLANCE

Data from the period April 2019 to March 2020



There were >40,000 devices implanted in 175 hospitals in 2019/20, and nearly 20,000 ablation procedures from 61 hospitals (no evidence of change from last year)

Devices

These include pacemaker implants and other devices such as implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs) and complex devices like cardiac resynchronisation therapy (CRT) devices.



In 2019/20, 273 leadless pacemakers and 639 subcutaneous ICD devices were implanted



92% and 94% of patients with sinus node disease and atrioventricular block receive the appropriate type of pacemaker, but not in all hospitals

There is >80% compliance with NICE standards for ICD implantation but some hospitals do not document this consistently

Ablation

Catheter ablation is a procedure in which steerable thin probes (catheters) are threaded along vessels and guided into the relevant locations within the heart. Ablation is then performed, creating a scar most commonly by passing a radiofrequency (RF) electrical current into the tissue, but sometimes by using extreme cold (cryotherapy) or other energy sources.

55% of AF ablation is performed by point-by-point radiofrequency ablation and 39% by pulmonary vein isolation using cryoablation



Procedure volumes

International studies have demonstrated that outcomes tend to be poorer in hospitals undertaking low volumes of device and ablation procedures. The British Heart Rhythm Society publishes standards documents for hospitals and clinicians undertaking these procedures in adults. These include minimum recommended procedure volumes.



84% adult NHS pacemaker implant centres meet the standard for procedure volumes but only 66% of adult NHS hospitals meet the standards for complex devices



62% of consultants who implant pacemakers are documented to reach the standards for procedure volumes; only 39% for complex devices

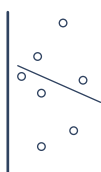


77% of consultants performing ablations meet the standards for procedure volumes; 85% for those performing complex ablations

Re-intervention 1 year on

The audit looks at re-intervention rates for pacemakers and ablation.

In 2019/20 there was a 4% 1-year re-intervention rate following pacemaker implantation; 6% for complex devices



There was a 3% 1-year re-intervention rate following simple ablations and 8% for complex atrial and ventricular ablations