

Patient Information Sheet: Synchronized Cardioversion

Synchronized Cardioversion helps restore the heart's normal rhythm, treating conditions like atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter.

Sticky pads are placed on the chest, and the patient is given medication to relax. A device then delivers electricity to the heart.

Prior to the Procedure

- Arrange to have someone take you home when you are discharged – you cannot drive for 24 hours after the procedure.
- You should have someone with you for the first 24 hours.
- Do not eat or drink anything after midnight before the procedure.
- Take your morning medications at 5 am with a small sip of water.
- Leave your valuables at home and wear comfortable clothing.
- Expect to remain in the hospital for about 2 hours after the procedure.

You are scheduled for synchronized cardioversion on:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Please note your appointment may be rescheduled if we are unable to support due to volume.

Location: Brant Community Healthcare System, 200 Terrace Hill Street, Brantford, Ontario.

Paid patient or visitor parking is available.

What happens day of the procedure?

- Call the Critical Care Unit at the BCHS (519) 751-5544 ext. 5501 to confirm availability.
- Arrive at the hospital at _____ for your scheduled procedure.
- Go to the patient registration desk on the main floor (D-WING entrance) to register for your procedure.
- After registration, you will be directed to the Critical Care Unit on the 5th floor.
- You will receive a gown; a nurse will complete a 12-lead ECG and start an IV.
- Medical history will be completed, and you will be given a medication to help you relax.



What happens after the procedure?

- You will feel drowsy- your blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing rate will be monitored, and when it is safe, you will be discharged home with your escort.
- You may have some redness on your chest where the shock(s) was given.
- In the rare case of complications, you may require admission to the hospital.
- You cannot drive, operate heavy machinery, drink any alcohol or make any major legal decisions for 24 hours after sedation.
- Prior to discharge, the nurse will review and provide you with discharge instructions; if you have any questions, please feel free to ask.