

Your guide to cardiac device health

What's in your pocket?

Your implanted cardiac device gives you peace of mind and improves the quality of your life. Now, monitor your pocket to ensure ongoing health.

While infections are rare, they can be serious.

Infections may start in the pocket or originate elsewhere in the body – such as from dental work or a cut that has become infected. The infection can enter the bloodstream and attach to the device.

Watch for changes in pocket appearance. If you see or feel signs of infection, contact your physician.

You may feel...	You may see...
Fever	Redness of the skin
Sweating	Pain or tenderness
Chills	Swelling
Fatigue	Warmth or “hot” feeling
Nausea	Blood, pus, or other drainage
	Skin ulcers
	Erosion of the device through the skin

If you have symptoms, don't delay.

Contact your device clinic or schedule a consultation with your physician.



The skin around your pocket should be healthy and have the same appearance as the other side of your chest



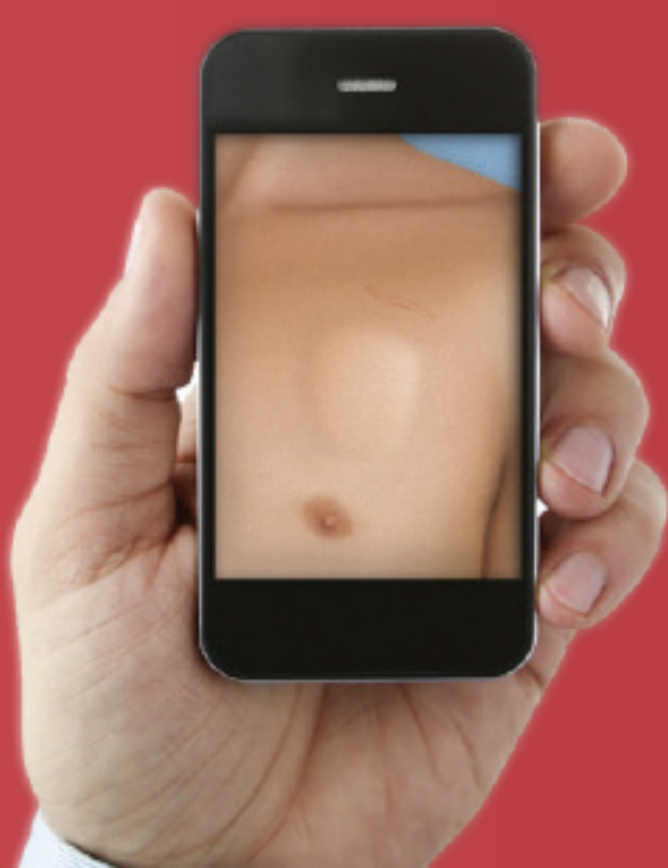
Early signs of infection may appear as redness, swelling or a hot feeling



Infections may become swollen and lesions or ulcers can develop



When infections advance, the device may actually protrude or come out of the body



Helpful tip

Take a picture of your pocket from time to time... it's an easy way to monitor any suspicious changes.

Remember: device + infection = referral

If you suspect a device infection, contact your electrophysiologist or device physician to schedule a consultation.

For more information visit upbeat.org/cied-management