

confirmation that it is safe and appropriate to re-issue your licence.

The whole process – from you re-applying for your licence to receiving it in the post – can take six to eight weeks.

Other useful contacts:

Harefield Hospital pacing clinic
01895 828 553

British Heart Foundation
020 7935 0185
www.bhf.org.uk

British Cardiovascular Society
020 7383 3887
www.bcs.com

DVLA
0872 494 1000
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/driver-and-vehicle-licensing-agency

If you have concerns about any aspect of the service you have received in hospital and feel unable to talk to those people responsible for your care, call PALS on 01895 826 572 or email pals@rbht.nhs.uk. This is a confidential service.



A lifetime of specialist care

Royal Brompton Hospital
Sydney Street
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SW3 6NP
tel: 020 7352 8121
textphone: (18001) 020 7352 8121

Harefield Hospital
Hill End Road
Harefield
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UB9 6JH
tel: 01895 823 737
textphone: (18001) 01895 823 737

website: www.rbht.nhs.uk

إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على ترجمة فورية لمضمون هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية، يرجى منك الاتصال بأحد مستخدمينا بجنّاح المصلحة التي يتم فيها استشفائك. أحد موظفينا سيسعى لترتيب إجراءات الترجمة وإتمامها في الوقت المناسب لك.

Brosurteki bilginin Türkçe tercumesi için tedavi görüyor olduğunuz bölüme basurunuz. Bölüm personeli tercumenin gerçekleşmesini en kısa zamanda ayarlayacaktır.

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Current DVLA driving regulations for patients with ICDs



The Driving and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) regularly reviews driving regulations for patients who have an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD). This is to ensure the safety of all drivers – those with ICDs, and those without.

This leaflet explains the current regulations, as agreed between the DVLA and its cardiology advisory panel.

What are the regulations?

- Your licence will be revoked for a period of six months following an implant.
- This time period is reduced to one month if your implant is purely for prophylactic (preventative) purposes.

Do I need to tell the DVLA?

Yes If your ICD was implanted for a serious arrhythmia (abnormal heart rhythm).

You will need to send your licence to the DVLA.

No If your device was implanted for purely prophylactic purposes.

No If your arrhythmia (abnormal rhythm) did not cause symptoms.

You do not need to send your licence to the DVLA.

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If you are unsure, please discuss this with your doctor or specialist nurse. You can also visit, the DVLA website: www.gov.uk/health-conditions-and-driving

What happens next?

After six months, you can apply to the DVLA to have your licence re-instated, provided that:

- you have had no therapeutic (corrective) shocks from the ICD
- you have not had any other therapy that has caused an incapacity, such as dizziness or blackout
- there is no other medical reason to disqualify you from driving.

Are there any other regulations?

- If at any time, you receive shock therapy, or symptomatic anti-tachycardia pacing (ATP) from your ICD you must inform the DVLA and stop driving for six months.
- If any therapy caused incapacity, such as dizziness or blackout, this period may be extended to two years unless appropriate steps have been taken to prevent re-occurrence (for example, introduction of anti-arrhythmic medications or ablation procedure).

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- If any changes are made to your anti-arrhythmic medications, you should not drive for one month. You do not need to inform the DVLA.
- If you have a box change, you can drive one week after the procedure.
- If you have a lead replaced or repositioned, you should not drive for one month. You do not need to inform the DVLA.

Will the DVLA contact medical staff about my condition?

The DVLA will usually contact staff at Harefield Hospital for information about your current ICD status. Staff can only give this information with your permission.

How do I get my licence back after having had a shock or therapy from my device?

Once the period during which your licence is revoked has finished, the clinic will see you, or arrange a download from your home monitoring system, to check whether it is safe for you to drive again.

You will need to contact the DVLA to re-apply for your licence. The DVLA will send the relevant forms to your consultant, asking for written

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