



## CARDIOVERSION

### What is a Cardioversion?

A cardioversion is a procedure used to correct rhythm abnormalities of the heart and is necessary if your heart is beating erratically and has been for some time. A cardioversion is intended to restore your heart to a normal rhythm, using a small electric shock.

### What preparation is required?

- Do not eat or drink anything for 6 hours before your procedure.
- You must have someone drive you home after the procedure and we advise you not to return to work that day. You may return to driving the next day.
- You will need to see your cardiologist two weeks after the cardioversion.
- You must continue with your Warfarin tablets, under your doctor's supervision, until you see your cardiologist.

### How is the procedure performed and who performs it?

You are put into a light sleep by an anaesthetist with a light anaesthetic. During the anaesthetic, two sticky pads are placed on your chest and a brief electric shock is passed through them to your heart. The procedure takes only a few minutes and you will not feel any pain or discomfort at the time however your chest wall may feel sore afterwards or you may have a small burn. You will be monitored in the ward for 1-2 hours until you feel comfortable to leave.

### What is the cost of the procedure?

You will be advised of the cost of the procedure and where to park when you make your appointment.

### How do I get my results?

It is expected that your heart will return to its normal rhythm. However, as your cardiologist will have explained to you, there is a small possibility that the procedure may not be successful and if so, your cardiologist will then discuss your future management with you.

### Where do I go to have this procedure?

You will be expected to arrive at the Mercy Hospital, Admissions Reception, Gate 1, 98 Mountain Road, Epsom,

at: \_\_\_\_\_ on: \_\_\_\_\_  
time day/month/year

This is approximately one hour before your procedure.

For further information refer [www.heartgroup.co.nz](http://www.heartgroup.co.nz) or phone 09 623 1020