

AUCKLAND HEART GROUP



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A Major Advance in the Treatment of Hypertension: Catheter-based Renal Denervation at Mercy Angiography - New Zealand's most experienced centre

By Dr. John Ormiston

It is common knowledge that effective treatment of hypertension reduces the risk of myocardial infarction, stroke, heart failure, renal disease and death. In many patients, lifestyle changes and medications do not adequately control hypertension and / or the medications cause troublesome side-effects.

What is renal denervation?

- The kidneys play a major role in blood pressure control because they are a source of sympathetic drive that passes centrally and constricts peripheral blood vessels and causes fluid retention.
- Trials show that interrupting the circuit by ablating the renal sympathetic nerves that run in the renal arteries causes profound improvement in hypertension in most patients.
- A catheter is passed from a femoral artery to deliver energy to the renal artery wall to interfere with the sympathetic nerves passing to and from the kidneys.
- There are a number of different technologies that can do this.
- Complications are rare.

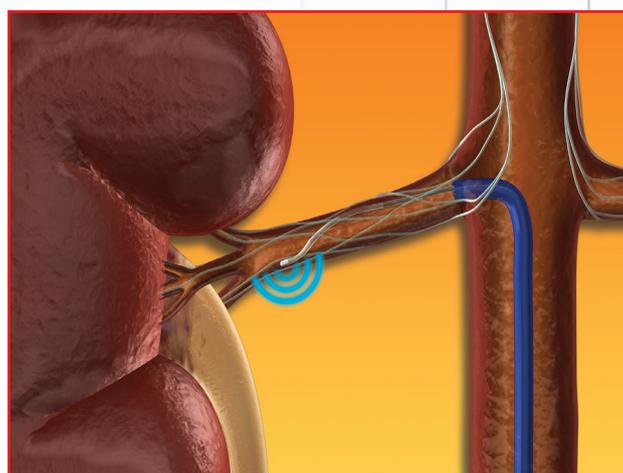
Who should be referred for Renal Denervation?

- Patients with poorly controlled hypertension despite medication.
- Patients with controlled hypertension but very troublesome side-effects from medications.

What is the cost?

- Most patients treated at Mercy Angiography have been participants in trials so that the treatment has been at no cost to them.
- Patients who do not fulfil trial inclusion criteria can pay for a treatment with a commercially available device, with a procedure cost of approximately \$17,500.

We continue to have ongoing trials with different inclusion criteria.



How to refer a patient

Contact an Auckland Heart Group cardiologist -
Ph: 09 623 1020 Fax: 09 623 1030
Email: ahg@heartgroup.co.nz
or

Dr John Ormiston directly -
Ph 09 630 1961 Email: johnO@mercyangiography.co.nz

More information

- Sunday TV programme:
<http://tvnz.co.nz/sunday/2012-06-17-video-4933343>
- Mercy Angiography Website:
www.mercyangiography.co.nz
- Medtronic Ardian Website:
www.medtronicrdn.com

Dr John Ormiston is a cardiologist at the Auckland City Hospital, is Medical Director of Mercy Angiography and a member of the Auckland Heart Group.

For more information: www.heartgroup.co.nz
www.mercyangiography.co.nz