

AFIB AND STROKE RISK DOCTOR DISCUSSION GUIDE

If you've been diagnosed with non-valvular atrial fibrillation (AFib), it's important to talk to your doctor about your condition and treatment options. To help get the conversation started, fill out the doctor discussion guide below and bring it to your next appointment.

CHECK THE QUESTIONS YOU'D LIKE TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR BELOW

Atrial Fibrillation and Stroke Risk

- What kinds of tests will I need to be sure that I have atrial fibrillation?
- What is atrial fibrillation? Are there different types of AFib?
- What causes atrial fibrillation?
- Why does AFib increase my risk of stroke?
- What is my risk of having a stroke?
- What are the symptoms of a stroke?
- What are the long-term effects of AFib on my heart?

Treatment Options

- What medicines should I take to control my heart rate?
- What treatments can help reduce my risk of stroke?
- Do I need blood thinners to avoid a stroke? If so, what kind? (e.g. aspirin, warfarin, etc.)
- Are there other treatment options besides blood thinners to help reduce my stroke risk?
- What are the bleeding risks associated with my treatment options? Are there treatment options to help reduce my risk of stroke that have a lower risk of bleeding over the long term?
- Are there treatment options that don't require regular International Normalized Ratio (INR) blood testing?
- What are some of the possible risks and side effects of all my treatment options?
- How will we decide which treatment option is right for me?
- Where can I go for more information on my treatment options?

WATCHMAN Left Atrial Appendage Closure Implant

- What is the WATCHMAN Implant?
- How does the WATCHMAN Implant work to reduce my stroke risk?
- How long does the WATCHMAN procedure take?

- How long will I have to stay in the hospital after getting a WATCHMAN Implant? How quick is the recovery time?
- What are the risks of the WATCHMAN procedure?
- When can I stop taking blood thinners after getting the WATCHMAN Implant?
- Do I have to make changes to my lifestyle or avoid certain foods if I get the WATCHMAN Implant?
- What do the clinical trials studying the WATCHMAN Implant show?
- Where can I go for more information on the WATCHMAN Implant?

Lifestyle and Support

- How will atrial fibrillation affect my life?
- Are there any lifestyle changes I can make to reduce my risk of stroke?
- Where can I go to find support?

Caregivers

- A loved one has AFib. What do I need to know?
- What are the symptoms of stroke that I should watch out for?
- What should I do if I think my loved one is having a stroke?
- Where can I go to find support for caregivers?
- What can I do to help educate my loved one about AFib and their stroke risk?
- Where can I go to find more information on treatment options for my loved one?

More Questions for Your Doctor

Use the space below for any additional questions you have for your doctor.

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