



# Deactivation and Palliative Care with an ICD.

- When would I consider switching off my device.**
- Will the device keep my heart beating forever.**
- Will the device keep shocking me.**
- Is it painful to switch it off.**
- Who needs to know my wishes for my device**

- When would I consider switching off my device.**
- A change in your medical condition
- Quality of life now more important
- Device needs a new battery

- Will the device keep my heart beating forever.**
- A pacemaker stimulates the heart muscle to beat.**
- Once somebody stops breathing, the body can no longer provide oxygen to the heart muscle and it will die and stop beating even with a pacemaker implanted.**
- Will the device keep shocking me.**
- If the device does not detect a cardiac electrical rhythm however faint or irregular, it will not deliver a shock.**

❑ Is it painful to switch it off.



## Who needs to know my wishes for my device

- Family, partner or close friends
- Family doctor
- Social worker or counselor
- Pastoral care or spiritual advisor
- ICD health care team members
- Cardiologist or heart specialist
- Heart failure team (if you have one)
- Palliative care team (if you have one)
- Substitute Decision-Maker (if you have one)

## Summary

If you decide to have your ICD shock function turned off:

- You will not feel any pain.
- You will not receive any shocks.
- It will make no difference to how you feel in general.
- It will not cause death but allow you to die naturally.
- The ICD shock functions can be turned back on again if you change your mind.





**Thank  
You**

**Questions ?**