



CHRISTIE CLINIC

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July 1, 2021

Christie Clinic
Department of Cardiology
101 West University Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61822

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR CARDIAC DEVICE

Dear Cardiology Patient,

The American Heart Association recently released a document advising that Apple products, with MagSafe magnet wireless charging technology, could interfere with the proper functioning of cardiac implantable electronic devices, more commonly known as pacemakers and/or implantable cardiac defibrillators. The purpose of this letter is to ensure you are aware of this information so that you can protect your health and your device. You may review this release in its entirety at: <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/JAHA.121.020818>

The AHA release specifically cites the Apple MagSafe technology and the Apple iPhone 12 Pro Max as risks due to the strength of magnets built into the devices, which increases once placed on a magnetized charger. Apple makes 28 products containing magnet technology that could interfere with your cardiac device. You can find a list of those products by going to: <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211900>.

Recommendations for individuals using a device with magnet technology are:

- During general use, keep the magnetized device greater than six inches from your implanted cardiac device.
- When charging, ensure that your magnetized device and charger are greater than 12 inches from your cardiac device.
- Do not carry a magnetized device in a breast pocket over your cardiac device.
- Consult your physician or your cardiac device specialist for recommendations regarding smartphone or other electronic device usage.

Your health and safety are very important to us. Please follow the above guidelines if using a magnetized device and discuss any questions you may have with your provider.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lawrence Atherton
Department Chair
Christie Clinic Cardiology