



# The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

## Questions to Ask Your Doctor about Cardiac Rhythm Disturbances

1. Will my condition ever get better without treatment? Can it get worse?
2. Will I need surgery?
3. Are there any lifestyle changes I can make to avoid having surgery?
4. How often do you perform the procedure that you've recommended for me?
5. What is the success rate for that specific procedure?
6. What are the potential side effects of this treatment?
7. Am I a candidate for minimally invasive surgery?
8. Can you walk me through the entire treatment process?
9. How long will I be in the hospital?
10. Will I have any restrictions after treatment? (activity, driving, etc)
11. How long will I be out of work?
12. Will I have to change my diet and/or lifestyle after treatment?
13. Will I have to take any long-term medications?
14. What will my follow-up care be like?