Name of Policy: **Pacemaker Patients**  
Policy Number: 3364-134-94  
Department: Radiation Oncology  
Approving Officer: Chief Executive Officer - UTMC  
Responsible Agent: Technical Manager, Radiation Oncology  
Scope: Radiation Oncology  
Effective Date: 7/1/2017  
Initial Effective Date: 8/18/2003

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(A) **Policy Statement**

Special precautions must be followed for all patient's undergoing radiation treatments that have a pacemaker.

(B) **Purpose of Policy**

To deliver quality and consistent care when delivering radiation therapy to pacemaker patients.

(C) **Procedure**

1. Obtain and record an accurate patient history regarding the pacemaker.
2. Make a photocopy of the patient's identification card that provides the manufacturer's name and contact information, as well as the pacemaker's serial and model numbers. If the patient does not have this information, contact the cardiologist's office to obtain this information.
3. Inform the patient's cardiologist about the plan of treatment and schedule appointment for patient to see cardiologist.
4. Pacemaker patient's must obtain cardiac clearance from their cardiologist prior to initiating radiation therapy.
5. Notify physics and simulation therapist about the presence of a pacemaker.
6. Place a diode/TLD on pacemaker for the first treatment to determine dose.
7. The frequency for monitoring should be determined by the cardiologist. Any monitoring needs to be documented in the patient's chart.
8. If determined necessary by the cardiologist, have the patient meet with the cardiologist after treatment to ensure appropriate monitoring and follow-up.
9. If the pacemaker will be in the treatment field, prior to the start of treatment, the Radiation Oncologist will consult with the cardiologist about options which may include moving the pacemaker out of the field.

Approved by:  
Changhu Chen, MD  
Professor & Chairman, Radiation Oncology  
Date: 7/5/2017

Daniel Barbés, RN, BSN, MBA  
Chief Executive Officer - UTMC  
Date: 7/6/2017

Review/Revision Completed By: Michelle Giovanoli

Next Review Date: 7/1/2020