



Information sheet to describe outcomes and complications associated with procedures in Cardiac Rhythm Management

Electrophysiological Study (EPS) and Ablation of Atrial Flutter

The chart demonstrates the expected outcomes for 1000 patients undergoing this procedure. The following page describes in more detail the outcomes and complications you need to understand before signing the Informed Consent form.

Explanation of event rates



Indicates one event per 1000 procedures



Indicates one event per 100 procedures

one row

Indicates one event per 25 procedures



Indicates 4 deaths per 1000 procedures which is similar to the lifetime risk of dying in a road traffic accident



Uncomplicated procedure



Minor complication



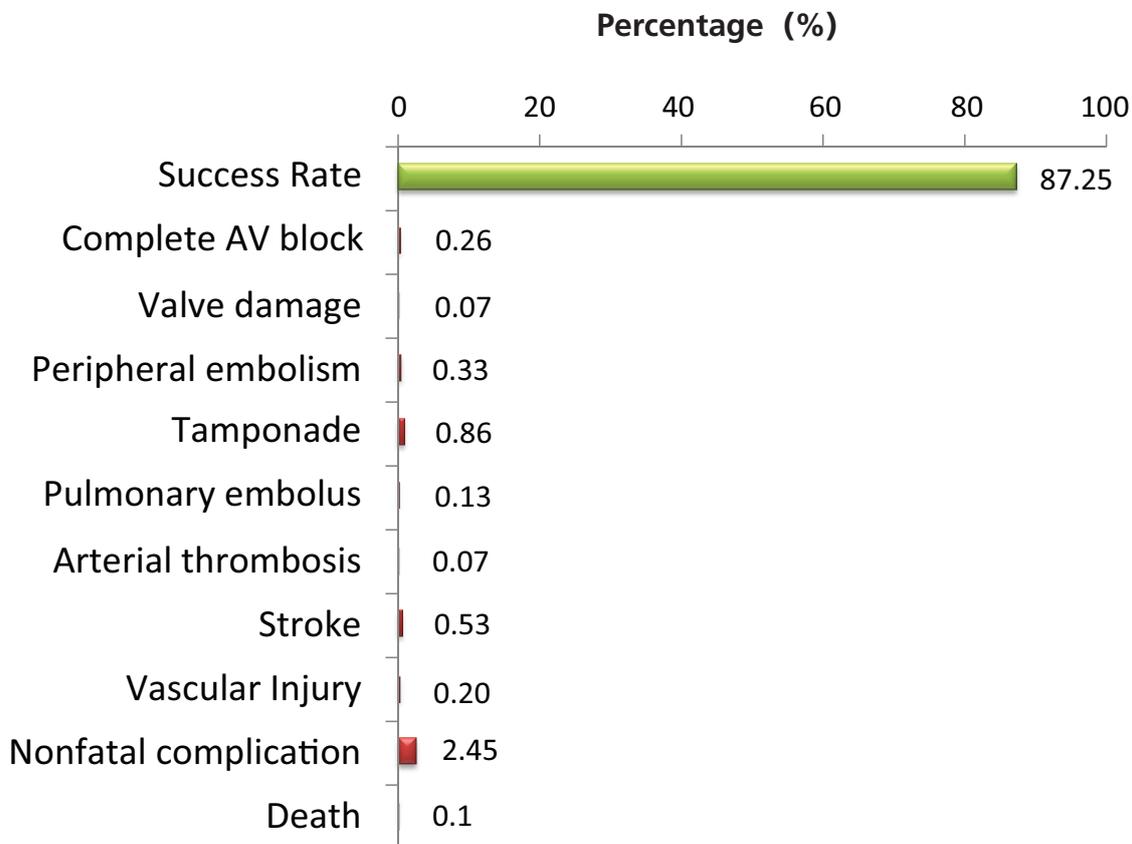
Major complication



Death

The bar chart below summarises the expected percentage success rates for the procedure you are planned to undergo (only shown if less than 100%) and the hazards. We have included success rates for this hospital. Complications are not common so these rates are based on our experience if available or the expected rates for rare complications based on published information.

We have provided an explanation of each outcome below. If you require more information about these you can ask the nurse or doctor to explain.



Complication	Description
Complete AV block	Ablation in the heart can cause damage to the conduction tissue in the junction box between the upper and lower heart chambers causing a slow heart rate which requires implantation of permanent pacemaker.
Valve damage	This is a rare complication caused by mechanical damage to the heart valves during the procedure.
Peripheral embolism	The risk of development of blood clots within the heart is usually reduced by the use of blood thinning agents in the operation but if they do occur may pass downstream to other organs in the body.
Tamponade	Tearing of the blood vessels within the heart or the heart wall itself can cause bleeding into the space around the heart and a low blood pressure. A drain may be inserted to treat this complication.
Pulmonary embolus	Blood clot in the lung causing breathlessness and usually requires treatment with blood thinning agents such as warfarin.
Arterial thrombosis	The insertion of wires into the arteries in the leg can cause blood clots to form within causing reduced circulation and pain in the leg on the same side which is typically treated with blood thinning agents or surgery.
Stroke	The risk of development of blood clots within the heart is usually reduced by the use of blood thinning agents in the operation but if they do occur may reach the arteries supplying the brain and cause a stroke.
Vascular injury	Excessive bruising and bleeding at the operation site usually improves with pressure but may require surgery to repair damaged blood vessels.