

*If you have
any questions,
please ask
your clinician.*

Implantable Loop Recorder

The implantable loop recorder (ILR) is a heart-monitoring device that continuously records the electrical activity of your heart over a long period of time. This information that can help your physician diagnose a heart rhythm problem.

Common reasons for getting an ILR include having these conditions:

- Very fast or very slow heart rate
- Unexplained fainting
- Unexplained stroke
- Heart palpitations

How the ILR works

The ILR is a small device that the physician inserts just under the skin a few inches below your collarbone. It is about the size of a AAA battery.

Your physician will program the ILR to look for abnormal heart rhythms related to your symptoms.

An ILR monitors your heart rhythm and will record a brief EKG if you have a heart rhythm that falls into the recording settings.

Depending on the type of ILR you have, you will have either a bedside transmitter or an app for your cellphone to send data to the care team. The transmitter/app looks at your ILR 1 time each night and will automatically send any recorded data to the Northwestern Medicine Bluhm Heart Hospital Device Clinic. The care team will review the data the next business day. The transmitter/app does not monitor your ILR constantly. It does not give your care team live monitoring data.

Cost of the ILR system

Before you have the procedure, check the coverage from your insurance company for the device and monitoring. ILR monitoring can be expensive. Monitoring is billed every 31 days, so please check with your insurance company to see what your monthly co-pay will be.

Please note: It is your responsibility to discuss coverage with your insurance company. When you talk to them, please give them the CPT® (Current Procedural Terminology) code 93298. Insurers use CPT codes to help determine the payment for services.

If you have any questions or concerns about billing, please contact Northwestern Medicine Financial Services at 312.694.1701 (TTY: 711). If you have any billing questions for the clinic, contact the Device Clinic patient liaison at 312.695.1926 (TTY: 711).