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Pectoral sandwich flap to salvage implanted pacemaker device- A case series

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Introduction:

Cardiac pacemakers, defibrillators and Cardiac resynchronization therapies are very common in current era. These devices are susceptible to erosion, exposure, or infection and plastic surgeons are consulted when salvage of the device is required. As of yet, sub pectoral position (by lateral repositioning approach or an anterior muscle splitting approach) and intrapectoral position to effectively and safely relocate the device have been described.

We have devised a novel technique where in the pectoral muscle is turned over itself to sandwich the device in-between to provide robust cover which optimizes the device function without the need of explanting the device so that the cost of undergoing a redo surgery and implanting a new device is eliminated.

I hereby present cases of twelve patients which required surgical intervention for cardiac devices over period of four years (from August 2013 to August 2017) for exposure, erosion, potential infection, and fat necrosis within 3 to 15 months of primary implantation, none of the patients were

treated for impeding erosion or cosmetic reasons. All patients were treated with pectoral muscle turn over technique to salvage

the device with fairly good result. Discussed here is the technique methodology and outcome of the flap surgery.

Biography:

Dr Sruja Narola is a third year resident doctor in Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at NHL Municipal Medical College, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Medical science and Research, Ahmedabad and has completed Masters in general surgery from the same institute. She has co-authored and has published 8 papers in reputed International journals in her tenure of 2 years as M.Ch residency.

Dr Vijay Bhatia is the Professor and Head of Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Medical science and Research, Ahmedabad and has over 30 years of teaching experience. He has published 21 papers in reputed International journals, and has been a reviewer for many International journals as well. He has Co-authored a chapter on facial injuries covering current concepts in facial trauma management, in book of brain protection and neural trauma edited by V.K.Khosla and V.K.Kag.

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