Research Opportunities at the Atrial Fibrillation Center

Research plays a prominent role at the Atrial Fibrillation Center. Current research interests include:

- The use of ablation as initial therapy for atrial fibrillation
- The combination of NAVx and intracardiac echocardiography for ablation of atrial fibrillation
- Evaluation of pulmonary veins by intracardiac echocardiography and MRI
- 3-dimensional CT imaging of the left atrium
- Long-term results from intracardiac echocardiography-guided ablation
- The effects of ablation on heart rate turbulence
- Is conduction block across linear lesions necessary for clinical efficacy?
- Clinical and echocardiographic predictors of success from ablation therapy
- Evaluation of atrial fibrillation burden
- Optimal anticoagulation management during atrial fibrillation ablation

Currently Open Prospective Randomized Clinical Trials include:

Atrial Fibrillation Ablation in Patients with Structural Heart Disease: *The addition of linear lesions to pulmonary vein Isolation*

Pulmonary Vein Ablation in Normal Hearts: *Ectopy-driven ablation vs. isolation of all veins*

Optimal Lead Placement for AF Suppression: *For Patients with an indication for pacemaker and paroxysmal or persistent AF*

Atrial Tachyarrhythmia Suppression Strategy in ICD Subjects (ASSIST): *For Patients with indication for ICD and paroxysmal or persistent AF*

WATCHMAN Left Atrial Appendage System for Embolic Protection in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation (PROTECT AF): For patients eligible for long-term warfarin therapy with paroxysmal, persistent, or permanent AF

A Placebo-controlled, Double-blind, Parallel Arm Trial to Assess the Efficacy of Dronedarone 400 mg bid for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Hospitalization or Death From Any Cause in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation/Atrial Flutter (AF/AFL)-ATHENA

Assessment of CardEP (3-dimensional imaging computer software) to Assist Left Atrial Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation

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