

UVA's Atrial Fibrillation Center has seen and treated more than 1,200 patients since its inception in late 2004.

UVA's Atrial Fibrillation Center provides a comprehensive evaluation and offers the full range of therapies to patients with atrial fibrillation, beginning with the least-invasive option the center believes will be effective.

Treatment options include medical therapy, ablation and device implantation and leading-edge treatments available through clinical trials.

UVA was the first center in the country to implant a bi-ventricular pacemaker for the new FDA indication for patients with poor left ventricular function after an AVJ ablation to treat atrial fibrillation.

outcome

- ▶ Three months after the procedure, the patient's energy level returned to normal
- ▶ Left ventricular function remains normal

“As far as I'm concerned, the quality of the treatment was excellent,” the patient says. “I play golf three times a week, I walk, and I work in the garden. Last fall, I went to Machu Picchu – you have to climb a lot of stairs to see the ruins.”

When to Refer

Patients should be referred to UVA's Atrial Fibrillation Center for

- ▶ Ongoing management of atrial fibrillation through treatments tailored to each patient's individual needs and condition
- ▶ A second opinion on treatment options
- ▶ Atrial fibrillation ablation and device implantation for patients who have been unsuccessfully treated with medication
- ▶ Access to clinical trials

For consultations or referrals Call UVA Physician Direct at **800-552-3723** and ask for the **Atrial Fibrillation Center.**

the patient

- ▶ 71-year-old male
 - ▶ History of hypertension and an eight-year history of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation.
 - ▶ Easily fatigued while playing golf and a persistently rapid pulse as high as 170 beats per minute
- “I used to walk two miles per day, and I was getting nauseous for some reason,” the patient says.

treatment team

- ▶ Patient is evaluated by one of the Atrial Fibrillation Center's seven physicians
- ▶ Multidisciplinary team includes electrophysiologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and research and educational coordinators.

diagnosis

- ▶ Severe left ventricular dysfunction, atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure
- ▶ A cardioversion and anti-arrhythmic medication was initially successful
- ▶ Patient converted back to atrial fibrillation with a rapid ventricular response

treatment

- ▶ An atrioventricular junction (AVJ) ablation electrically “disconnected” the atrium from the ventricle
- ▶ A bi-ventricular pacemaker was implanted to prevent dyssynchrony from ventricular pacing