

**WATCHMAN™**  
LEFT ATRIAL APPENDAGE CLOSURE DEVICE

## **AF AND STROKE RISK DOCTOR DISCUSSION GUIDE**

If you've been diagnosed with non-valvular atrial fibrillation (AF), it's important to talk to your doctor about your condition and treatment options. To help get the conversation started, fill out the doctor discussion guide below and bring it to your next appointment.

## **CHECK THE QUESTIONS YOU'D LIKE TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR BELOW**

### **Atrial Fibrillation and Stroke Risk**

- What is atrial fibrillation? Are there different types of AF?
- What causes atrial fibrillation?
- Why does AF increase my risk of stroke?
- What is my risk of having a stroke?
- What are the symptoms of a stroke?

### **Treatment Options**

- What medicines should I take to control my heart rate?
- What treatments can help reduce my risk of stroke?
- Do I need blood thinners to avoid a stroke? If so, what kind? (e.g. aspirin, warfarin, etc.)
- Are there other treatment options besides blood thinners to help reduce my stroke risk?
- What are the bleeding risks associated with my treatment options? Are there treatment options to help reduce my risk of stroke that have a lower risk of bleeding over the time?
- What are some of the possible risks and side effects of all my treatment options?
- How will we decide which treatment option is right for me?

## WATCHMAN Left Atrial Appendage Closure Implant

- Am I candidate for the WATCHMAN implant?
- What is the WATCHMAN Implant?
- How does the WATCHMAN Implant work to reduce my stroke risk?
- How long does the WATCHMAN procedure take?
- How long will I have to stay in the hospital after getting a WATCHMAN Implant? How long does it take to recover?
- Is WATCHMAN safe?
- What are the risks of the WATCHMAN procedure?
- Should I take medications after getting the WATCHMAN Implant?

## More Questions for Your Doctor

Use the space below for any additional questions you have for your doctor.

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The WATCHMAN Device is a permanent implant designed to close the left atrial appendage in the heart in an effort to reduce the risk of stroke. With all medical procedures there are risks associated with the implant procedure and the use of the device. The risks include but are not limited to accidental heart puncture, air embolism, allergic reaction, anemia, anesthesia risks, arrhythmias, AV (Arteriovenous) fistula, bleeding or throat pain from the TEE (Trans Esophageal Echo) probe, blood clot or air bubbles in the lungs or other organs, bruising at the catheter insertion site, clot formation on the WATCHMAN™ Closure Device, cranial bleed, excessive bleeding, gastrointestinal bleeding, groin puncture bleed, hypotension, infection/pneumonia, pneumothorax, pulmonary edema, pulmonary vein obstruction, renal failure, stroke, thrombosis and transient ischemic attack. In rare cases death can occur. Be sure to talk with your doctor so that you thoroughly understand all of the risks and benefits associated with the implantation of the WATCHMAN Device.