

# Cryoballoon: An alternative to radiofrequency ablation

## OHSU OFFERS NEW TREATMENT FOR PAROXYSMAL ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

### A word from the director



OHSU is the first hospital in the region to offer an exciting new procedure to treat drug-refractory recurrent

symptomatic paroxysmal atrial fibrillation (PAF): the Arctic Front Advance™ Cryoballoon System. This procedure uses a cold balloon to isolate, freeze and ablate the pulmonary veins, instead of point-to-point heat or radiofrequency catheter ablation. It simplifies the process of pulmonary vein ablation, and speeds the procedure.

If you would like to learn more about the cryoballoon or consult with our team, please contact us at **800 245-6478**.

Sincerely,

Charles Henrikson, M.D.

### OHSU's Electrophysiology Physicians

Charles Henrikson, M.D.

Jack Kron, M.D.

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### Indications for referral

The cryoballoon effectively treats a broad range of pulmonary vein anatomies. Indications for referral include:

- Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation that has failed at least one medication
- Otherwise healthy patients with no additional pre-existing conditions

### Contraindications

- Prior afib ablation
- Prior surgical maze
- Patient > 80 years old

### Advantages

This minimally invasive procedure is associated with faster procedure times than point-to-point radiofrequency ablation: Freezing helps the balloon maintain contact during the procedure. There is no need for continuous irrigation of the balloon, which results in less fluid delivery to the patient as compared to radiofrequency energy.

### OHSU follow-up

Each patient is evaluated in our clinic one and three months after procedure. Referring physicians receive a complete report.

### About us

The clinical cardiac electrophysiology (EP) service at OHSU is dedicated to the diagnosis and management of all types of heart rhythm disorders. We offer a complete range of noninvasive and invasive EP services, as well as a vigorous research program.

Charles Henrikson, M.D. is the director of the electrophysiology service at OHSU. Dr. Henrikson and his staff perform the full range of EP procedures including pacemaker and defibrillator implantation; EP study and ablation of supraventricular tachycardia, atrial fibrillation, and ventricular tachycardia; laser lead extraction; and epicardial access and ablation. He has an active research program with more than 70 peer-reviewed publications.

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