Table 1: Summary of Impact of Magnet Application to Five Brands of ICDs

Manufacturer Response to Magnet Effect on Pacer Tone Emitted

Component of ICD

Boston Scientific	ICD inhibited until magnet removed	None	Yes, beeping tone synchronous with R-wave or every sec	Yes (Very rare)	Older ICDs that could be permanently deactivated with a magnet are gone. Sub Q ICD responds to a magnet
Medtronic	ICD inhibited until magnet removed	None	Yes, monotone for 10–15 seconds only. High-low tone indicates device malfunction	No	Patient alerts can be programmed to emit an on-off tone with magnet application
St. Jude	ICD inhibited until magnet removed	None	No	Yes (Very rare)	
Biotronik	ICD inhibited until magnet removed	None	No	No	Magnet will inhibit ICD for 8 hours only. Would have to remove and replace ICD to extend inhibition
Sorin	ICD inhibited until magnet removed	Converts pacer rate to 96—>80 depending on battery life. Pacing mode unchanged	No	No	No option to convert to an asynchronous pacing mode even when the ICD is inhibited with a programmer

Can ICD be programmed

to ignore magnet?

Miscellaneous