



Message from the Chairman – Jeremy White

The Support Group is delighted to for our first open meeting since 2019. In preparation, members of our team have carried out a Risk Assessment of the All Saints Church Hall. The conclusion is that with chairs spaced 1 - 2 metres apart, we will be able to accommodate up to about 80 people with appropriate social distancing. (This is around our normal attendance.) The principal item in this edition of Defibber News is a very helpful article by Adrienne. This gives a Step-by-Step Guide to re-applying for your Driving Licence, in the event that your licence is suspended following a shock from your defibrillator.



Our Main Speaker Dr Mark Ainslie has been a Consultant for 4 years. He completed his cardiology training in Manchester in 2016 and undertook a 2 year fellowship at the Ottawa Heart Institute in Canada. He came back to the UK and was a Consultant for a short period at Blackpool Victoria before being appointed at Wythenshawe in March 2020. Within 2 weeks of starting he was doing COVID ward rounds, a strange start to his career at Wythenshawe! He is trained in electrophysiology, cardiac devices and cardiac MRI.

Hospital Contacts @ MFT WYTHENSHAW SITE

- CRM nurse team for enquiries about symptoms, medications, general enquiries – 0161 291 5076
- Cardiac Physiologists for appointments only 0161 291 4640 problems with device 0161 291 4615
- mft.CRMnurses Cardiowtwa@mft.nhs.uk



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OUR NEXT MEETING “ASK THE CONSULTANT”

Dr Mark Ainslie

Wednesday August 10th 2022 2.00pm

All Saints Church Hall, Hale Road, Hale Barns WA15 8SP

Tea & coffee served from 1.15pm

Look on our website for updates about the meeting and preparations for supporting everyone in a Covid secure manner:

<https://wythenshaweicd.wixsite.com/icdsupport>

Reapplying for your driving licence and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA)

Hi everyone! Patients regularly ask our CRM team about reapplying for their driving licence after a ban. It can cause a lot of stress and confusion, so, here is some information about the process. Reapplying can be difficult, so we advise you to be organised. When you informed the DVLA of your driving ban they will have asked you to surrender your licence. Providing you have not had any dangerous heart rhythms such as ventricular fibrillation (VF) or ventricular tachycardia (VT) and no therapy has been delivered from your device (such as a shock or Anti Tachycardia Pacing), you can start the process of reapplying for your licence at around 4 months. Go onto the DVLA website, here it is: www.gov.uk/reapplying-driving-licence-medicalcondition

You will need to print and fill in form DEFIB1 which is on the website. Complete the form and return it to the DVLA. If the form is not fully completed, there will be a delay. You must sign the declaration form which gives your consultant permission to provide information to the DVLA about you and your device at the end of the 6 months. Again, if you fail to do this, there will be delays in returning your licence.

[The address for returning your form is here:](#)

Drivers Medical Group

DVLA
Swansea
SA99 1TU

[The phone number for medical conditions is here:](#)

DVLA Medical Enquiries

Telephone: 0300 790 6806
Monday to Friday, 8am to 7pm
Saturdays, 8am to 2pm

If you are unsure of any details on the form, you can contact the CRM nurses for advice. We may not be able to answer all your questions, but we can tell you who your consultant is, when your device was implanted and your medical conditions. You can also get information from your ID card and any letters from the hospital. However,

it is your responsibility to complete the form. We are not able to do this for you. At 6 months, your consultant will complete his/her part of the form and your device will be checked, either in clinic, or through your remote monitor.

Providing everything is in order, the DVLA will return your licence. They say that you can resume driving while they investigate your case but check this with them. If possible, get something in writing or on email/text, in case you have an accident. This will act as proof of your permission to drive. It is illegal to drive while on a driving ban. If you drive while on a ban, the DVLA can fine you up to £1,000 and may prosecute you, so it is very important that you don't break the law. Your consultant's secretary keeps a record of your application to drive. If there are delays in returning your licence, please contact the DVLA first. They should be able to tell you what is holding up your application. Then contact your consultant's secretary, to check all the necessary paperwork has been completed from the hospital.

Well, I hope that helps! Be organised and apply at 4 months so there are as few delays as possible. Time passes quickly, and you will hopefully soon be back driving safely. Don't forget to take your medicines! These help to reduce the risk of any dangerous heart rhythms occurring.

Stay regular! Adrienne

From time to time, members of our Support Group have asked if they could make a donation to help finance the Newsletter and assist in the cost of organizing our Groups Meetings. Members, if they so wish, can now make a donation direct to the Support Groups Bank, the details of which are

LLOYDS BANK 

If you would like to make a donation to the ICD support group, the bank account details are: WYTHENSHAW ICD SUPPORT GROUP
Sort Code: 30-91-91 Account Number: 30781868
Emma Maiden: Treasurer, 12 The Willows,
Cranwell Village, Lincolnshire, NG34 8XG