Patient Activities

Component Manipulation (Twiddler’s Syndrome). Do not move or rub your generator or leads through your skin; this is sometimes called “twiddler’s syndrome.” Manipulation of the implanted devices can cause damage, dislodgement, skin damage, or unintended stimulation.

Scuba Diving or Hyperbaric Chambers. Do not dive below 30 meters (100 feet) of water or enter hyperbaric chambers above 4.0 atmospheres absolute (ATA). Pressures below 30 meters (100 feet) of water (or above 4.0 ATA) can damage your generator or leads. Before diving or using a hyperbaric chamber, discuss the effects of high pressure with your doctor.

Skydiving, Skiing, or Hiking in the Mountains. High altitudes should not affect the generator, however, you should consider the movements involved in any planned activity and take precaution to not put undue stress on your generator or leads. During skydiving, the sudden jerking that occurs when the parachute opens can dislodge or break a lead, requiring additional surgery to repair or replace the lead.

Pediatric Use.

- For pediatric and some adolescent patients, there is a potential to grow out of your OAS without intervention in some cases. Therefore, please give serious consideration and discuss with your doctor the decision to surgically implant this device.