

*Bartosz Zambrzycki, Michał Łuczaj*

**COMPLICATIONS AFTER PACEMAKER IMPLANTATION IN AN 81-YEAR-OLD  
FEMALE PATIENT**

*Tutors: dr n. med. Robert Sawicki, dr hab. n. med. Anna Lisowska*

*Department of Cardiology*

*Medical University of Białystok, Białystok*

**Background.** Sick sinus syndrome is a disorder of the sinoatrial node. The condition is caused by a not fully functional pacemaker and damaged impulse transmission. The dysfunction can occur at any age but it is the most common in older age. One of 600 cardiac patients of 65 years of age or older develops sinus node dysfunction. [1] The treatment of the disease can include a placement of a peacemaker. Pacing for asymptomatic SND does not affect prognosis. Therefore to improve patients' live with symptomatic bradycardia due to SND, permanent pacing is considered as an appropriate indication.

**Case report:**This case report presents the medical history of an 81-year-old woman with heart failure with preserved ejection fraction, sinus node disease in the form of symptomatic bradycardia, persistent atrial fibrillation, acute tricuspid regurgitation surgically repaired in 2013, and moderate mitral regurgitation. The patient had a VVI pacemaker implanted in 1995 which was removed transvenously in 2013 due to pacemaker pocket infection. The procedure was complicated by tricuspid valve injury. Cardiac surgical intervention was essential to reconstruct the valve leaflet. The patient underwent valve reconstruction and an epicardial DDD pacemaker implantation. The pacemaker generator was located in a space developed between the muscles and fascia of the abdominal wall. Currently, due to increasing ventricular exit block and pacemaker battery depletion, the decision was made to implant a leadless MICRA pacemaker.

**Conclusion.** This case report illustrates therapeutic challenges arising from the presence of early and late complications of medical procedures. The patient therefore required a non-standard procedure, i.e. implantation of a new generation leadless MICRA pacemaker. Although the decision went beyond the standards of conduct, the advantages of this approach are multiple.