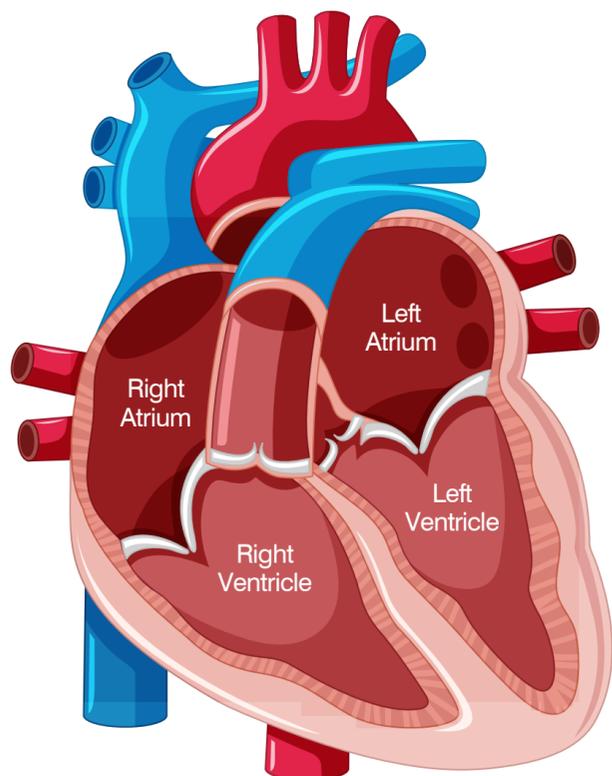


# State of the *Heart* Robotic Technology

## Atrial Fibrillation



### What is Atrial Fibrillation?

Atrial fibrillation, often called AFib or AF, is the most common type of heart arrhythmia. With AFib, the beating rhythm of the upper chambers of the heart, called atria, is irregular. The beating rhythm of the upper chambers and lower chambers is not coordinated, and blood cannot flow as well as it should. AFib may happen in brief episodes, or it may be a permanent condition.<sup>1</sup>

Some patients may not experience any symptoms, while others may experience one or more of the following:

- Irregular heartbeat
- Heart palpitations (rapid, fluttering, or pounding)
- Lightheadedness
- Extreme fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain

### What is Robotic Catheter Ablation?

Catheter ablation is a minimally invasive procedure that uses radiofrequency energy to correct areas of heart tissue that are causing rapid and irregular heartbeats and helps restore your heart's regular rhythm.<sup>2</sup>

Robotic ablation uses magnetic fields and robotic precision to navigate a magnetic catheter inside the heart, directly from the tip. The technology consists of two robotically controlled magnets next to the operating table. During the procedure the physician precisely directs and steers the ablation catheter safely through the delicate anatomy of the heart using intuitive computer software.



### Why Robotics for Catheter Ablation?



#### Treatment Precision

Robotics allows the ablation catheter to reach the exact points where it is needed, wherever that may be. Because a magnetic catheter is controlled from the tip, it is very precise.



#### Gentle Touch

Your heart is delicate. Robotically controlled ablation catheters are soft and gentle like al dente spaghetti and more flexible than traditional, manually-guided catheters.



#### Reduced Radiation

With robotics, physicians have confidence of the safety of a gentle catheter. This leads to lower need for x-ray during the procedure. That means less radiation exposure for patients.<sup>3</sup>

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