

## BroadcastMed | Reveal LINQ Insertable Cardiac Monitor

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**SPEAKER 1:** For thousands of people with a common heart condition, the problem isn't what they feel. It's really what they don't feel.

**SPEAKER 2:** Yeah, in fact, potentially dangerous symptoms can actually go on undetected for years.

**SPEAKER 1:** But now, ABC 7 news anchor Eric Thomas reports doctors at one Bay Area hospital are turning to a new device to spot trouble before it starts.

**ERIC THOMAS:** In a small room at John Muir Medical Center in Concord, Susan Pemberton is getting ready to undergo treatment for a condition she didn't even know she had.

**SUSAN  
PEMBERTON:** No, I don't feel it at all. The doctor had to tell me that I was in A-fib.

**ERIC THOMAS:** Susan suffers from atrial fibrillation. It's an irregular heartbeat that can cause symptoms ranging from shortness of breath to an elevated heart rate or in a significant number of cases like Susan's, no symptoms at all. But cardiac specialist Dr. Susan Eisenberg says even patients who are asymptomatic can be in danger of serious heart damage.

**DR. SUSAN  
EISENBERG:** The problem is whether you have symptoms or not your risk for stroke and heart failure still exists.

**ERIC THOMAS:** Two years ago, San Francisco 49er head coach, Jim Harbaugh, underwent treatment for the same condition. But Dr. Eisenberg says diagnosing and treating a patient without symptoms presents challenges.

**DR. SUSAN  
EISENBERG:** We can't tell if the medication that we're giving or the ablation that we might perform has been effective if the patient can't tell us.

**ERIC THOMAS:** So the John Muir team turned to a miniaturized device known as the Reveal. It's designed to track a patient's heartbeat 24 hours a day in much the same way as a traditional monitor. But instead of being worn on the chest, the Reveal is implanted in the patient's body.

**DR. SUSAN  
EISENBERG:** You doing OK?

**ERIC THOMAS:** Before implanting the device, Dr. Eisenberg will coax Susan's heart back into rhythm with a cardioversion, a common technique that applies a short jolt of electricity.

**DR. SUSAN  
EISENBERG:** Clear, please. Sign is rhythm. Great.

**ERIC THOMAS:** After confirming that Susan's heartbeat is back to normal, Dr. Eisenberg inserts the monitor using a small probe. The procedure takes less than five minutes. And when it's finished, the patient won't feel or see the device. But by using the equivalent of a cell signal, the reveal will transmit data about Susan's heart for up to three years.

**DR. SUSAN  
EISENBERG:** And literally can be programmed by the physician to tell the doctor whatever information it is that they need.

**ERIC THOMAS:** She says the monitor will let them know if the effect of the cardioversion wears off. The next treatment would be cardiac ablation, a surgical procedure which disables the nerves responsible for the irregular heartbeat.

**DR. SUSAN EISENBERG:** And this implanted device is going to give us great information about whether the drugs are working or whether the ablation is working with really no discomfort whatsoever to her.

**ERIC THOMAS:** For Susan, the short-term benefits begin with peace of mind.

**SUSAN PEMBERTON:** It's going to give me freedom because I won't have to worry if I'm in A-fib or not. It'll just let the doctor know if I am.

**ERIC THOMAS:** Eric Thomas, ABC 7 News.