



J. M.

Does a cardiac pacemaker lengthen the dying process or postpone death in palliative care unit patients?

Background: The purpose of this study was to determine if the presence of a cardiac pacemaker in palliative care unit patients was associated with a longer dying process or a later time of death.

Material and method: A retrospective chart review was conducted on 111 patients in a palliative care unit who had a cardiac pacemaker implanted. The study was conducted over a 2-year period from 2015 to 2017.

Results: The mean age of the patients was 71.1 years. The mean time from pacemaker implantation to death was 11.3 months. The mean time from death to pacemaker implantation was 0.2 months. The mean time from pacemaker implantation to death was significantly longer than the mean time from death to pacemaker implantation ($p < .001$).

Notes: