

A-FIB.COM WORKSHEET: Questions for Cardiac Electrophysiologists

Doctor's Name

Date of interview

A-Fib patients: print a copy of this worksheet for each doctor you see. After each interview, compare their answers to the "What the Answers Mean" on A-Fib.com (<http://a-fib.com/questions-for-doctors-and-what-the-answers-mean/>)

1. "What treatments do you recommend for dealing with or curing my type of A-Fib

2. "Do you perform Catheter Ablation for my type of A-Fib? What methods or techniques do you use or prefer?"

3. "What is your success rate for my type of A-Fib? How do you define 'success'? (Is the patient free of A-Fib and free from drug therapy? Or free of A-Fib but still on medications?)"

4. "How long have you been performing catheter ablations for my type of A-Fib and how many procedures do you perform a year?"

5. "What do you do if I'm still in A-Fib at the end of the ablation procedure?"

6. "What kind of complications have you had after ablations?"

7. "What techniques or technologies do you use to increase the safety and effectiveness of your procedures? For example, how do you protect the esophagus?"

8. "Do you ever refer your A-Fib patients for Maze or Mini-Maze surgery?"

9. *For female patients:* "What is the extent of your training specifically related to women's heart health?"

10. *Observations:* Note the doctor's demeanor, approachability, listening skills, etc. Is this someone you want to work with? Who understands how A-Fib makes you feel? Who inspires your trust?