

## **Joint Replacement Cards**

This is from the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) Website:

[http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/specialneeds/editorial\\_1374.shtm#1](http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/specialneeds/editorial_1374.shtm#1)

- It is recommended (but not required) that you advise the Security Officer that you have an implanted pacemaker, other implanted medical device, or metal implant and where that implant is located.
- Security Officer will offer you a private screening once it becomes known that you have a metal implant or implanted medical device.
- If your Doctor has indicated that you should not go through the metal detector or be handwanded because it could affect the functionality of your device or the magnetic calibration of your device, or if you are concerned, ask the Security Officer for a pat-down inspection instead.
- Security Officers will need to resolve all alarms associated with metal implants. Most alarms will be able to be resolved during a pat-down, therefore clothing will not be required to be removed or lifted as part of the inspection process.

## **ID Cards for Joint Replacements at the Airport**

Tuesday June 2, 2009

Metal implants in the body, including joint replacements, plates, screws, and rods, can set off metal detectors at the airport. For many years, patients were given wallet-sized cards from their doctor to inform the security personnel of their implanted metal.

However, these cards are not needed, and seldom issued by physicians any longer. The reality is that security personnel will handle the fact that your implant set off the metal detector the same, regardless of whether or not you have an identification card. Patients with pacemakers are asked (but *not* required) to carry an ID card, but patients with orthopedic implants, including joint replacements, **do not** need a special identification card.

### **What happens when I set off the metal detector?**

If your implanted metal sets off an airport metal detector, you will be asked to proceed with a secondary screening. This may consist of using a wand or a pat-down to ensure that the metal is inside your body.