

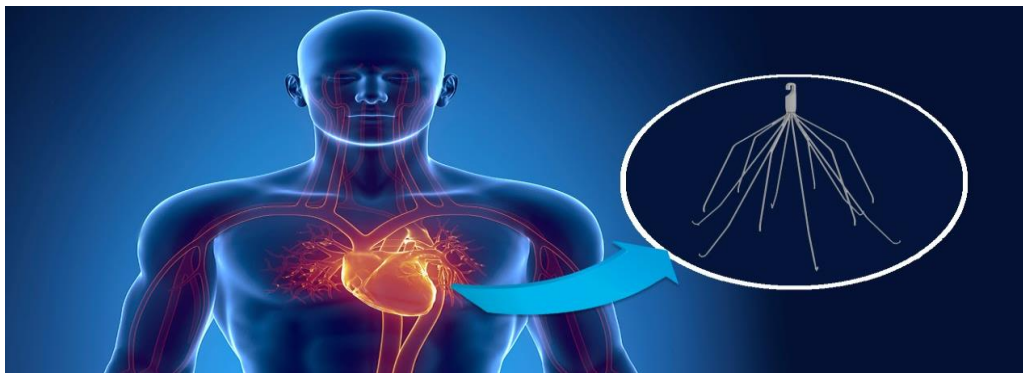


IVC Filters



What is an IVC Filter?

IVC (Inferior Vena Cava) Filters are small, cage-like or spider-like devices that are implanted in the inferior vena cava—the main vessel moving blood from the lower body to the heart. Patients who are at risk of developing blood clots but who are not candidates for blood thinner medication often have IVC Filters implanted, especially after major surgery.



What are the Side Effects?

According to reports made by the FDA, use of retrievable IVC Filters may cause serious side effects, including:

- Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)
- Difficulty removing the filter
- Embolization (movement of the entire filter or filter fragments to the heart or lungs)
- Fracture of the filter
- Perforation of the inferior vena cava
- Tilting of the filter

Side effects may occur in as little as a week or after years of implantation.