Can I use an iPhone 12 if I have an implantable cardiac device?

Medtronic has analysed iPhone technology and found that it presents no increased risk of interference with our implantable cardiac rhythm devices, such as pacemakers, implantable defibrillators (ICDs), and cardiac resynchronization therapy devices (CRT-D/Ps), when used according to labelling.

As a precaution, we still advise that you maintain a distance of 15cm between your cell phone and your implanted device.

**For example:**
- **Use your cell phone on the side opposite of your device**
- **Don't lay your phone on your chest when laying down**
- **Don't put your phone in a breast pocket on the device side when carrying it around**

A recently published study did not follow the recommendation of keeping a 15cm distance or the approved labelling for these devices in their methodology.

Like with all other iPhones/smartphones, when used as directed, there is no increased risk of interference.
To protect our patients, we have built safeguards into Medtronic implantable cardiac devices to allow for normal daily interference; these safeguards include electronic filters that distinguish between natural heartbeat signals and other potential interference.

Apple’s iPhone 12 series features a magnet that allows these phones to more easily align with external accessories. According to Apple (https://support.apple.com), the MagSafe technology in iPhone 12 models is not expected to pose a greater risk of magnetic interference to medical devices than prior iPhone models.

Reference: