Ablation to Treat Atrial Fibrillation

AF (left) causes the upper chambers (atria) to quiver chaotically and irregularly, instead of beating in coordination with the two lower chambers (ventricles). Typical symptoms include palpitations, breathlessness and fatigue. While AF isn’t immediately life-threatening, it can impede blood flow to the body, causing fatigue, breathlessness and chest pain. It also can weaken the heart, potentially leading to heart failure, and cause blood to pool in the atria and form clots, which raises your risk of stroke five-fold. During the ablation procedure (right), the areas where AF is triggered are eliminated, to prevent abnormal heart rhythms from occurring.