

Never giving up and a good doctor's support, Joe recalls his journey with AF.

(Submitted and written by Joe Burnie, Hampshire, UK)

I am one of Professor Morgan's success stories from last year. I was diagnosed with PAF in April 2005 at the age of 47. I tried various medicines to no avail and my cardiologist referred me to Professor Morgan in March 2006.

I underwent a PVI in June 2006 in Southampton. It didn't work at all. I underwent a tricuspid isthmus isolation in December 2006, still no success.

In February 2007, Professor Morgan re-performed the PVI and did a lot more most of which he described to me the day following the procedure when I was not feeling 100% so cannot recall all the detail! This was done in the most impressive new cath labs in Southampton General. I was then rather unfortunate to suffer from Dressler's Syndrome and be admitted to Cardiac High Care to have a pericardiocentesis to drain half a litre of fluid. Cardiac High Care is one hell of a place and made me realise how lucky I was to have an almost healthy heart.

Following about six months of lots of extra beats at night and funny heart rates when exercising, everything began to settle down in November 2007. I now enjoy NSR for 99% of the time and can exercise without any heart rate problems. I am delighted with the treatment I received and would recommend the procedure to anyone who suffers from PAF where the drug solutions do not work.