



SORIN GROUP HIGHLIGHTS ITS LATEST INNOVATIONS AT CARDIOSTIM 2006

Nice, June 13, 2006 – Sorin Group, an innovative leader in cardiac rhythm management therapies, will showcase its latest OVATIO™ implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs) along with other breakthrough technologies at Cardioslim 2006 (June 14-17, Nice, France).

“The first 1,500 patients have been implanted with OVATIO, the world’s smallest ICD (29 cc). This small, exclusive ICD is now available worldwide”, said Drago Cerchiari, Sorin Group CEO.

Size is very important for ICD patients from both a comfort and cosmetic perspective.

Two of OVATIO’s exclusive features, AAlsafteR™ and PARAD®+, will be discussed during the symposium “**ICD Patients: Answers to Conflicting Needs**” (June 15, 11:00-12:30 pm) that will be co-chaired by Freddy Abi-Samra, M.D., Medical Director of the Electrophysiology Laboratories (Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, USA) and Poul Erik Bloch Thomsen M.D., Ph.D. Chief Physician and Assistant Professor of Cardiology, (Gentofte Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark).

Commenting on OVATIO advanced pacing and ICD functions, Dr. Freddy Abi-Samra said: “I like OVATIO pacing capabilities, especially AAlsafteR, and PARAD+, its supraventricular tachycardia recognition feature. These features are probably the best available among similar competitor ICDs. I am confident that my patients will be comfortable and safe with this small-sized ICD and its 34J output.”

Studies have shown that unnecessary ventricular pacing increases the risk of heart failure and atrial fibrillation^(1, 2). AAlsafteR is capable of reducing ventricular pacing to only 0.2% in OVATIO DR patients with intact conduction⁽³⁾. AAlsafteR is also the only pacing mode that manages **all types of heart block**.

PARAD+, the **industry-best algorithm** for reducing inappropriate shocks⁽⁴⁾ is capable of accurately differentiating ventricular tachyarrhythmias and treating the full spectrum of arrhythmias through painless anti-tachycardia pacing (ATP). ATP delivered as first-line therapy can spare patients inappropriate shocks and increase device longevity.

Other Sorin Group innovations will be presented during a Live Implant session (June 14, 14:00 -17:30 pm):

- BTO™ (Brady Tachy Overlap), a feature available in OVATIO CRT for the treatment of heart failure.

Heart failure patients need to be resynchronized at every heartbeat, especially to allow exercise as their capacity is increased by cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT). Because arrhythmias occur at the same rate as normal cardiac rhythm during exercise in those patients, BTO understands when to resynchronize for exercise and to treat an arrhythmia.

- PEA™ (Peak Endocardial Acceleration) for CRT in heart failure patients.

The PEA sensor detects the strength of the heart’s contractions, i.e., contractility. Because contractility provides objective assessment of the heart failure patients’ status, it is fundamental to monitor and optimize the impact of CRT. Continuous monitoring of PEA

allows the device to automatically optimize the timing and activation sequence of the heart chambers to deliver maximum hemodynamic benefit to the patient.

"We are proud to present our newest innovations to the world's leading cardiologists who will attend Cardioslim 2006. Our innovative devices respond to important clinical needs in the area of arrhythmia management and heart failure and bring significant benefits to thousands of cardiac patients," said Drago Cerchiari, Sorin Group CEO.

Sorin Group:

Sorin Group CRM Business Unit designs and manufactures implantable pacemakers and ICDs, leads and Holter equipment and markets them worldwide.

Sorin Group (Reuters code: SORN.MI), a world leader in the development of medical technologies for cardiac surgery, offers innovative therapies for cardiac rhythm dysfunctions, interventional cardiology and the treatment of chronic kidney diseases. Sorin Group includes: Dideco, CarboMedics, COBE Cardiovascular, Stöckert, Mitroflow, ELA Medical, Sorin Biomedica, Bellico and Soludia. Sorin Group has more than 4,700 employees working at facilities in more than 80 countries throughout the world to serve over 5,000 public and private treatment centers.

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