GUIDANT

October 3, 2005

Dear Patient,

We are writing you to provide information regarding your Guidant INSIGNIA pacemaker in light of recent news. We have also contacted your physician of record who helps to care for you and your pacemaker.

We have notified the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and your physician of the unlikely, but possible, failures in these devices. In some of cases, patients have become dizzy, lightheaded, or have fainted requiring hospitalization.

Your device may be made with a component at risk of these failures. Your doctor can determine this from the recorded serial number of your pacemaker. For those patients implanted with these devices at this time, we estimate that more than 99.96% will not experience this device malfunction.

We are here to work with you and your doctor to ensure you receive the information you need about your device.

- We have recommended that your physician continue normal monitoring of your device, per device labeling.
- As always, seek attention immediately if you experience shortness of breath, dizziness or lightheadedness.
- If you are not sure which model pacemaker you have, or if you have other questions regarding your device, ask your doctor for this information.
- If you know your device's model and serial number and want to find out if it is included in this communication, please access www.guidant.com/webapp/emarketing/lookup.jsp or contact Guidant at 1-866-GUIDANT (1-866-484-3268) for any questions.

You should know that INSIGNIA pacemakers improve the lives of over 260,000 people like you around the world everyday. We are deeply aware of the enormous responsibilities that come along with providing products that hold the promise of powerful and positive impact on you and your family. As a result, we work passionately to provide the most reliable products to serve you. We are also committed to educate patients and physicians about the limitations of these devices. At this time, we are working with physicians, outside experts, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to continuously improve the quality and reliability of these lifesaving devices and make even better information available to you and your doctor about their performance.

If you would like more information from Guidant about your pacemaker, call 1-866-GUIDANT (1-866-484-3268) in the U.S. or visit www.guidant.com.

Sincerely,

Allan Gorsett

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