Beeping Tones Associated with “Out-of-Range” Shock Lead Impedance

In addition to visual indicators displayed on the programmer (Clinical Events and/or yellow warning messages), some Boston Scientific defibrillators also emit an audible indicator to alert patients/clinicians when the device has detected an “out-of-range” shock lead impedance measurement. These two indicators are triggered by impedance measurements of less than 20 ohms (Ω) or greater than 125 Ω.

Audible Indicator (Beeping Tones) for CONFIENT®, LIVIAN®, VITALITY® HE, CONTAK RENEWAL® 3/4, 3/4 HE, 3/4 RF, and 3/4 AVT Devices

Upon the first detection of a shock lead impedance value outside the normal range, 16 R-wave synchronous beeping tones will sound. Once beeping tones begin, they will repeat every six hours until the Clinical Event is manually reset with a programmer (Figure 2).

Visual Indicator

Upon the first programmer interrogation following detection of an out-of-range shock lead impedance value, a message will display in the Clinical Events window of the System Summary screen (Figure 1). Additionally, for those devices enrolled in LATITUDE Patient Management System, an out-of-range value also triggers a red alert.¹

Out-of-Range Impedance Measurements

Any time an out-of-range shock lead impedance condition is reported, clinicians should conduct standard lead testing and troubleshooting procedures to identify root cause and resolve the issue. For assistance with any out-of-range messages, please contact a local Boston Scientific CRM representative or CRM Technical Services.

¹ In order for red alerts to be detected by the LATITUDE System, an upload of device information must be received.
Shock impedance >125 Ω (e.g., open condition):

- **Prior to implant**—Will occur if a daily measurement is conducted before a lead is attached to the device. Since daily measurements are activated upon removal from Storage mode, a device should not be removed from Storage mode until the lead is attached. Note that programmable parameters may be adjusted without taking the device out of Storage mode.
- **During and Post-implant**—May indicate a lead connection issue (e.g., loose setscrew or incomplete lead insertion) or a breach in the electrical pathway (e.g., lead conductor fracture).

Shock impedance <20 Ω (e.g., shorted condition):

- May indicate a possible internal insulation breach (e.g., clavicle/first rib damage), inappropriate electrode contact, or a damaged defibrillator.

**Resetting the Clinical Event and Beeping Associated with Out-of-Range Shock Lead Impedance**

Once the underlying reason for the out-of-range measurement is understood and resolved, the Clinical Event should be reset as outlined in Figure 2. **Resetting the Clinical Event will terminate the beeping tones.** Until the Clinical Event message window is reset, additional Clinical Events/LATITUDE alerts for out-of-range shock lead impedance will not be generated, and the device will continue to emit beeping tones every six hours.

![Figure 2. Reset the Clinical Event and beep by selecting the Reset Event button in the yellow message window.](image-url)

For additional information, refer to the **A Closer Look** article entitled *Investigate, Report, Print, and Reset Clinical Event Messages in the System Summary Screen* available through CRM Technical Services.