

# VITALITY® AVT

Models A135, A155

## Details About Your Boston Scientific VITALITY® AVT Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD)

### What is an ICD?

ICD stands for *implantable cardioverter defibrillator*. An ICD is a small, battery-powered device that holds a tiny computer. It is implanted in the body to watch for and treat abnormal heart rhythms. All ICDs today can detect and treat both fast and slow heart rhythms. Your doctor programs your ICD to respond appropriately based on your individual heart rhythm needs.

#### Treating fast heart rhythms

If a dangerously fast ventricular heart rhythm occurs, your VITALITY AVT ICD can deliver lifesaving therapy. Depending on your condition, the ICD may deliver small but rapid electrical signals called antitachycardia pacing (ATP). Or it may deliver a full-energy shock. These therapies are designed to return your heart rhythm to normal.

#### Treating slow heart rhythms

If an abnormally slow heart rhythm occurs, your VITALITY AVT ICD can act like a pacemaker to deliver small electrical signals that help your heart beat more normally. Your ICD's pacemaker can also help increase your heart rate to meet your body's needs when you are active.

### How long will my ICD last?

Like anything that operates on a battery, the life of your ICD will depend on how much the battery is used. The battery is used every time your device delivers therapy. So the amount of therapy you receive, and the amount of energy your doctor programs into those therapies, affects the life of the battery. A VITALITY AVT ICD typically lasts 4–6 years.

### What happens after my implant procedure?

#### Care and recovery at home

Your doctor or nurse will give you specific instructions to follow when returning home. Full recovery from surgery can take from several days to a few months, depending on your condition. It is important that you are actively involved in your own recovery. Follow your doctor's instructions about caring for the implant site and letting your other doctors, dentists, and emergency personnel know that you have an implanted ICD system.

#### Follow-up visits

Once you have an ICD, it is important to follow your doctor's guidelines for follow-up visits. These typically occur every 3 months. Your doctor uses the follow-up visits to check your device and monitor your heart condition, which can change over time. Your doctor may also adjust your device settings.

### How small is my ICD?

Height	Width	Thickness	Weight
2.56 in. 6.5 cm	2.32 in. 5.9 cm	0.43 in. 1.1 cm	2.89 oz. 82 g



ACTUAL SIZE  
(when printed at 100%)

**Boston  
Scientific**



*Delivering what's next.™*

## **Important Safety Information**

### **Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators from Boston Scientific CRM**

An implantable cardioverter defibrillator can protect you from the effects of sudden cardiac arrest by reviving your heart rhythm. But it is not for everyone, including people with certain steroid allergies. Procedure risks include infection and tissue damage. In some cases, the device may not respond to irregular heartbeats or may deliver inappropriate shocks. In rare cases severe complications or device failures can occur. Electrical or magnetic fields can affect the device. Only your cardiologist knows what is right for you. Find further important safety information, visit [www.lifebeatonline.com](http://www.lifebeatonline.com). This device is available by prescription only. Individual results may vary.

(Rev. C)

### **Cardiac Rhythm Management**

Boston Scientific Corporation  
4100 Hamline Avenue North  
St. Paul, MN 55112-5798 USA  
Tel: 651.582.4000 Fax: 651.582.4166

Medical Professionals:  
1.800.CARDIAC (227.3422)  
Patients and Families:  
1.866.484.3268

**[www.bostonscientific.com](http://www.bostonscientific.com)**

Copyright © 2009 by  
Boston Scientific Corporation  
or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

C9-134-0409