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BIOTRONIK SE & Co. KG  
Woermannkehre 1  
12359 Berlin  
Tel +49 (0) 30 68905-1602  
Fax +49 (0) 30 68905-1969  
www.biotronik.com

## **First CRT-D Patient Enrolled in the EuroEco ICD/CRT-D Trial Assessing the Economic Effect of BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®**

BERLIN, Germany, July 23, 2012 — **BIOTRONIK** announced today that the first CRT-D patient has been enrolled in the **BIOTRONIK EuroEco Trial**—the European Health Economic Trial on Home Monitoring in implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (**ICD**) and cardiac resynchronization therapy device (**CRT-D**) patients. The aim of the study is to assess the economic effects of **BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®** based remote follow-up management compared to conventional in-clinic or practice follow-ups.

In the study, the economic impact on the hospital - expressed as total follow-up cost - will be assessed and the cost-effectiveness will also be evaluated as a secondary analysis. The trial has been extended to incorporate CRT-D patients after more than 300 ICD patients enrolled in the first stage of the trial.

**BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®** is a unique system that provides continuous, automatic, wireless remote monitoring of patient status and device status with daily updates—all independent of any patient interaction. The landmark trial **TRUST**<sup>1,2</sup> and the **COMPAS**<sup>3</sup> study have proven that **BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®** leads to **early detection** of clinically relevant events and therefore to an earlier intervention and reduction of hospitalizations.

“Studies on the economic effects of remote follow-ups are still sparse,” remarked **Prof. Dr. Hein Heidbüchel**, Cardiology, University Hospital Leuven, Belgium, and Coordinating Clinical Investigator of the trial. “Nevertheless, the financial implications of remote care will drive its acceptance. Authorities and hospitals will need information on how this innovative care can be adequately reimbursed. EuroEco is the first trial where an economic evaluation of remote monitoring is the primary endpoint.”

“The medical benefit—the safety and efficiency of **BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®**—has already been proven,” continued Prof. Heidbüchel. “With the efficiency and safety this service offers, we postulate that **BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®** also provides ways of improving care in a cost-effective way, which constitutes a win for patients, a win for society and a win for health care providers.”

The EuroEco trial is a randomized, multicenter, international clinical trial with 312 ICD patients, and in its extension 104 CRT-D patients—a total

of 416 patients in 15 European sites— with each patient having a 24-month follow-up.

“The BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring® remote follow-ups are able to enhance the safety and quality of patients’ lives by allowing for earlier detection of clinically relevant events and avoiding hospitalizations,” commented Christoph Böhmer, President International at BIOTRONIK. “We can proceed from the assumption that the systematic and continuous remote monitoring with BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring® will have clear effects on cost effectiveness and savings for the health care system.”

#### **About BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring®**

BIOTRONIK has pioneered advances in its BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring® remote patient management system since its first clinical application in the year 2000. Today, BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring® is used extensively in more than 5,300 clinics and 56 countries worldwide.

#### **About BIOTRONIK SE & Co. KG**

As one of the world’s leading cardiovascular medical device companies, with several million implanted devices, BIOTRONIK is represented in over 100 countries with its global workforce of more than 5,600 employees. Known for having its fingers on the pulse of the medical community, BIOTRONIK assesses the challenges physicians face and provides the best solutions for all phases of patient care, ranging from diagnosis and treatment to patient management. Quality, innovation and clinical excellence define BIOTRONIK and its growing success—and deliver confidence and peace of mind to physicians and their patients worldwide.

#### **References:**

- <sup>1</sup> Varma et al., *Circulation* 2010, 122, 325–332.
- <sup>2</sup> Varma et al., *Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol* 2010, 3: 428–436.
- <sup>3</sup> Mabo P. et. al., *Eur Heart J* 2012, 33 (9): 1105-1111.

**More information:** [www.biotronik.com](http://www.biotronik.com)

#### **Contact:**

Sandy Hathaway  
Senior Director, Global Communications  
BIOTRONIK SE & Co. KG  
Woermannkehre 1  
12359 Berlin  
Tel. +49 (0) 30 68905 1602  
E-Mail: [sandy.hathaway@biotronik.com](mailto:sandy.hathaway@biotronik.com)

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