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Symplicity Blood Pressure Procedure Spotlighted as Another Solution for Uncontrolled Hypertension at Fourth High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly

Medtronic plc, a global leader in healthcare technology, today joined the United Nations' (UN's) call to action against the rise of hypertension in global citizens worldwide. At the Fourth High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases and the Promotion of Mental Health and Wellbeing, global leaders and health experts spotlighted hypertension as the world's leading preventable cause of death and a principal driver of the cardiovascular disease (CVD) epidemic. The meeting, co-chaired by the permanent Mission of Luxembourg, underscored the urgent need for greater investment in evidence-based interventions to improve hypertension control.

Jason Weidman, senior vice president and president, Coronary & Renal Denervation business in the Medtronic Cardiovascular portfolio, joined a panel to discuss the urgent need for action, in advance of this week's publication of the UN Political Declaration on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, which seeks to have 150 million people with hypertension under control by 2030.

"I commend the UN and the permanent Mission of Luxembourg for bringing the urgent need for improved diagnosis and treatment of hypertension to the forefront as a global health priority," said Weidman. "Despite advances in medication and lifestyle modification, only one in five adults with hypertension have their blood pressure under control. We're honored to represent the private sector as part of this discussion on how we can work collectively with health systems and governments to advance this critical mission to control the hypertension."

The panel discussion, "Recent, Critical Technological Advances in Uncontrolled Hypertension," brought together leaders in the hypertension space with moderation from Prof. Atul Pathak – NCCI Luxembourg; Board Member, European Society of Hypertension (ESH). Joining Weidman were Dr. Taisei Kobayashi, Interventional Cardiologist at the University of Pennsylvania and Sue Koob, MPA, Chief Executive Officer of the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association (PCNA). Their session highlighted new technologies like renal denervation, that are now included in treatment guidelines[1,2] for hypertension, along with lifestyle modification and medications.

“Non-communicable diseases remain the leading causes of death and disability across the globe, with cardiovascular disease at the forefront. Hypertension is a major risk factor, and uncontrolled hypertension continues to exact a severe toll on public health and economies,” said Dr. Kobayashi. “Until recently, managing hypertension relied almost entirely on medication and lifestyle changes – an approach effective for many, but leaving a significant cohort of patients at elevated risk due to challenges with long-term medication adherence. Renal denervation is a one time, minimally invasive procedure, can help patients with uncontrolled hypertension reduce their blood pressure.”*

Hypertension guidelines globally, including updated guidelines from the American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association (ACC/AHA), European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the European Society of Hypertension (ESH) recognize renal denervation (RDN) procedures - like those using the Medtronic Symplicity Spyral renal denervation system - as a third pillar for the treatment of high blood pressure along with medication and lifestyle changes.

About Hypertension

Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is a global health crisis, and is the leading modifiable cause of heart attack, stroke, and death.[3] Despite available treatment with medications and lifestyle changes, blood pressure remains uncontrolled for many patients. Nearly 80% of adults with hypertension do not have it under control[4] and half of hypertension patients become non-adherent to medication within one year.[3,5]

About the Symplicity Spyral

The Symplicity Spyral RDN system, approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in November 2023, is an innovative, minimally invasive procedure that delivers radiofrequency energy to nerves near the kidneys that can become overactive and contribute to high blood pressure. Approved for commercial use in over 75 countries around the world, the Symplicity Spyral is the only commercially available RDN device with the breadth of durable, consistent, long-term data and single catheter design. The SPYRAL-HTN clinical program has demonstrated 18 mmHg office blood pressure reductions out to three years in a real-world setting,[4] has the longest and largest real-world registry[6] and the largest dataset showing long-term reductions without the need for additional medication.[6-7]

About Medtronic

Bold thinking. Bolder actions. We are Medtronic. Medtronic plc, headquartered in Galway, Ireland, is the leading global healthcare technology company that boldly attacks the most challenging health problems facing humanity by searching out and finding solutions. Our Mission — to alleviate pain, restore health, and extend life — unites a global team of 95,000+ passionate people across 150 countries. Our technologies and therapies treat 70 health conditions and include cardiac devices, surgical robotics, insulin pumps, surgical tools, patient monitoring systems, and more. Powered by our diverse knowledge, insatiable curiosity, and desire to help all those who need it, we deliver innovative technologies that transform the lives of two people every second, every hour, every day. Expect more from us as we empower insight-driven care, experiences that put people first, and better outcomes for our world. In everything we do, we are engineering the extraordinary. For more information on Medtronic, visit www.Medtronic.com, and follow Medtronic on LinkedIn.

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Contacts:

Krystin Hayward
Public Relations
+1-508-298-8246

Ryan Weispfenning
Investor Relations
+1-763-505-4626

*Any views expressed by Dr. Taisei Kobayashi solely reflect personal opinion and do not reflect the views or opinions held by the University of Pennsylvania

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1 Jones, DW et al. AHA/ACC/AANP/AAPA/ABC/ ACCP/ACPM/AGS/AMA/ASPC/NMA/ PCNA/SGIM Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults. *Circulation,* August 2025. Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults. https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0000000000001356.

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3 WHO. Hypertension fact sheet. September 13, 2019. Available at: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hypertension. Accessed February 15, 2022.

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5 Bhatt, D. et al, Long-term outcomes after catheter-based renal artery denervation for resistant hypertension: final follow-up of the randomised SYMPLICITY HTN-3 Trial. The Lancet. September 18, 2022. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(opens new window)(22)01787-1.

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