

## UPDATE: Urgent Field Safety Notice

Model 1000 SenTiva® VNS Therapy® Generators (S/N < 100000)

NM-HOU-2018-006 (Update to FSN Sent 6 December 2018)

**Type of action:** advice given by MANUFACTURER regarding the use of the device and/or the follow-up of patients

May 28, 2019

Dear Doctor:

### Purpose of this Letter

You are receiving this notification because one or more of your patients has been implanted with a Model 1000 generator with a serial number (S/N) < 100000, a Model 1000 generator with (S/N) < 100000 was supplied to your hospital/facility, or you have been trained to the product potentially affected by the issue below.

### Reason for the Voluntary Correction

Lead impedance values reported by the Model 1000 generator with serial numbers < 100000 will be higher compared to those reported by Model 103-106 generators. This is due to a change in the timing of when the Model 1000 generator takes the lead impedance measurement during diagnostic testing<sup>1</sup>. As a result, normal impedance ranges for the Model 1000 have shifted relative to the existing thresholds of 600 - 5300 Ohms defined in labeling and as present in the VNS Therapy programming software.

As shown in the following comparison of impedance values recorded at implant, the majority of devices (as represented by the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile) are expected to remain well below the 5300 ohms 'High' threshold even with the shift toward higher values seen in Model 1000.

	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile values	
	New Implants	Replacement Implants
Model 103-Model 106	2487 ohms	3194 ohms
Model 1000	2933 ohms	3922 ohms

As indicated in the Physician's Manual<sup>2</sup>, high lead impedance ( $\geq 5300$  Ohms), in the absence of other device-related complications, is not an indication of a lead or generator malfunction. Existing recommendations, as described in the Physician's Manual, should still be followed.

### Updated Information

LivaNova has continued to work diligently to further address this issue and recently received the CE mark for an updated version of the Model 1000 device that eliminates the issue.

Beginning May 28, 2019, LivaNova will begin shipping the updated version of the Model 1000 device. The updated version can be identified based on serial number - S/N > 100000. All other functionality remains the same.

<sup>1</sup> The impedance is calculated by measuring voltage response to a constant current pulse delivered to the nerve. The actual voltage response monotonically increases over the duration of the pulse, and the Model 1000 performs the measurement later in the pulse compared to other generator models.

<sup>2</sup> VNS Therapy System Physician's Manual:

<http://en.eu.livanova.cyberonics.com/healthcare-professionals/resources/product-training>

The current version of the Model 1000 generator (S/N < 100000) may continue to be implanted, provided the instructions contained in this communication (and now incorporated in our Physician's Manual) are followed.

## **Risk to Health**

Device performance is unaffected for Model 1000 generators currently in your inventory (S/N < 100000). The issue does not affect the device's ability to safely deliver therapy, nor does it impact battery longevity.

The current version of the Model 1000 generator (S/N < 100000) may continue to be implanted, provided the instructions contained in this communication (and now incorporated in our Physician's Manual, section 1.4.4) are followed:

<http://en.eu.livanova.cyberonics.com/healthcare-professionals/resources/product-training>.

Model 1000 generators with serial numbers < 100000 may show higher lead impedance values compared to Model 103 – 106 generators. The higher impedance issue presents a risk of unnecessary surgery or unnecessary explant/replacement of implantable product. Surgical interventions where high impedance could not be conclusively identified as being caused by a system malfunction or connector pin insertion issue have occurred in 0.18% of the potentially affected device population to date. No unnecessary surgical interventions related to this issue have been reported since we initiated this action in December 2018.

## **Which Patients are Potentially Impacted?**

Any patient implanted with a Model 1000 generator with serial numbers < 100000 could potentially be affected by this issue. Patients implanted with 2.0 mm electrode leads (i.e. Model 30X-20) have a higher possibility of being affected by this issue than those patients implanted with 3.0 mm electrode leads (i.e. Model 30X-30), as the greater surface area of the 3.0 mm leads generally results in lower overall impedance results.

## **Actions to be taken by the Physician - Update**

What actions should you take?

### 1. Hospitals:

- a. LivaNova will be contacting you to offer an exchange of any affected Model 1000 devices (S/N < 100000) that remain in your hospital's inventory, prioritizing imminent surgeries as inventory becomes available.

### 2. Physicians:

- a. The instructions below have now been incorporated into the Physicians Manual in section 1.4.4.
- b. Patient Management During Surgery:
  1. If high lead impedance ( $\geq 5300$  Ohms) is observed intra-operatively in Model 1000 devices with a serial number < 100000:
    - a. Continue to perform troubleshooting steps as described in labeling to assess proper lead pin insertion, proper lead placement on the nerve, proper irrigation of the nerve, and properly functioning generator via generator diagnostics being within normal limits. Detailed information and recommendations regarding the *Implantation Procedure* and troubleshooting can be accessed in the VNS Therapy Physician's Manuals, found in the manuals section: <http://en.eu.livanova.cyberonics.com/healthcare-professionals/resources/product-training>.

- b. If high lead impedance ( $\geq 5300$  Ohms) is still observed for new implants following all troubleshooting steps being performed as described in labeling in order to sufficiently rule out other causes, consider replacing the M1000 generator or lead with another device. For replacement procedures, compare the last known impedance reading from the prior generator with the M1000 reading if available; differences similar to those shown in the prior table may be observed.
        - c. Contact Clinical Technical Support at (866) 882-8804 (Monday to Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM CST) or e-mail at [cservices@livanova.com](mailto:cservices@livanova.com) to report the high lead impedance and to obtain a Returns Good Authorization (RGA) number to return the explanted/unused M1000 generator for product analysis.
2. Please complete and return the attached **Customer Response Form** (see **Attachment 1**) by fax to 281-853-1248 or by e-mail to [LivaNova.FSCA@livanova.com](mailto:LivaNova.FSCA@livanova.com).
- c. Patient Management During Follow-up:
  1. Continue to monitor patients and perform diagnostic testing at each visit. Information and recommendations regarding high and low impedance thresholds can be accessed in the VNS Therapy Physician's Manual, found in the manuals section: <http://en.eu.livanova.cyberonics.com/healthcare-professionals/resources/product-training>.

If lead impedance is reported at, or above, the high impedance threshold ( $\geq 5300$  Ohms) in Model 1000 devices with a serial number  $< 100000$ :

    - a. **New implant patients:** Perform an anteroposterior (AP) and lateral chest and neck X-ray and mail to Clinical Technical Support for X-ray review to assess proper lead pin insertion.
    - b. **Replacement patients:** Perform an AP and lateral chest and neck X-ray and mail to Clinical Technical Support for X-ray review to assess proper lead pin insertion and for potential lead breaks.
    - c. Contact Clinical Technical Support at (866) 882-8804 (Monday to Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM CST) or e-mail at [cservices@livanova.com](mailto:cservices@livanova.com) to report the high lead impedance, and provide X-rays for additional review.
  2. Ensure patients do the following:
    - a. (Epilepsy only) Continue using their magnet regularly to verify that stimulation is felt as described by the labeling; and
    - b. Notify their physician if there is a change in perceived clinical symptoms (e.g., increase in seizures/depressive symptoms, painful stimulation, changes in perception of stimulation, etc.)
  3. Please complete and return the attached **Customer Response Form** (see **Attachment 1**) by fax to 281-853-1248 or by e-mail to [LivaNova.FSCA@livanova.com](mailto:LivaNova.FSCA@livanova.com).

### **Transmission of this Communication**

Please ensure that this notice is communicated to all personnel within your organization who need to be aware of it, and transfer this notice to other organizations on which this action has an impact.

This action is being reported to the Food and Drug Administration and other applicable regulatory agencies.



Health innovation that matters

**Contact reference person**

For questions regarding the information in this letter, please contact Clinical Technical Support at (866) 882-8804 (Monday to Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM CST) or e-mail at [cservices@livanova.com](mailto:cservices@livanova.com) or [LivaNova.FSCA@livanova.com](mailto:LivaNova.FSCA@livanova.com).

Patient safety is our top priority, and we remain committed to providing quality products and services to our customers. We apologize for any inconvenience this situation may have caused.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Njemile', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Njemile Crawley  
Director, Customer Quality, North America

Enclosed: Attachment 1: Customer Response Form

**Model 1000 SenTiva® VNS Therapy® Generators (S/N < 100000)  
NM-HOU-2018-006**

**UPDATE: Urgent Field Safety Notice**  
**Acknowledgement and Receipt Form**  
**Response is Required**

By signing and returning this Medical Device Correction Acknowledgment and Receipt Form, you are acknowledging that you have read and understood the notification that contains important information relating to the potentially affected VNS Therapy SenTiva Generator discussed in this letter.

To prevent repeat notifications of this notice, please sign form and return by one of the following methods:

- E-mail to [LivNova.FSCA@livanova.com](mailto:LivNova.FSCA@livanova.com); or
- Fax to +1-281-853-1248

If you have any questions about this Field Safety Notice, contact LivaNova at +1 (281)-228-7330 (Monday to Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM CST) or e-mail at [cservices@livanova.com](mailto:cservices@livanova.com) or [LivNova.FSCA@livanova.com](mailto:LivNova.FSCA@livanova.com).

Medical Professional Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_