Medtronic Presents Real-Time Electronic Perfusion Charting during 2011 CREF Cardiothoracic Surgery Symposium

At the 2011 CREF Cardiothoracic Surgery Symposium, more than 100 clinicians witnessed a broadcast of a simulated OR procedure demonstrating real-time electronic perfusion charting. Hosted by Medtronic, in partnership with Spectrum Medical, the presentation featured a high fidelity case simulation run by Robin Sutton, Chief Perfusionist at Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL, and Clinical Coordinator of the Rush University Perfusion Technology Program.

During the broadcast, Sutton demonstrated the ease of electronic perfusion charting using the Spectrum Viper Data System and the seamless way the system integrates with critical OR devices such as the heart-lung machine, Medtronic’s HMS Plus System and Bio-Console® 560, the patient monitor, and the blood monitoring system.

After the case presentation, Medtronic sales representative Kim Lewis, CCP, spoke about the importance of high fidelity simulation for perfusion training. “This is an important training tool for perfusionists since it brings together all of a case’s details in a realistic setting,” Lewis said. “Its sophisticated realism helps train clinicians in the real-time use of products like the VIPER system as well as with clinical decision-making.” Her comments were confirmed by members of the audience who commented on how informative the broadcast was and the value of better understanding how the VIPER system works. Others commented that the high fidelity simulation is an excellent remote training tool, especially useful for professionals for whom travel for educational purposes is not always feasible.

Following Lewis’s comments, Steven Turner, CEO, Spectrum Medical, fielded questions about the Viper Data System and how user-friendly it is for managing and integrating data. “Spectrum Medical’s data management system is a good example of how intuitive...
and user-friendly a charting system can be,” Turner said. “We offer three electronic perfusion charting system components which you saw demonstrated today: VIPER, the data acquisition module; VISION, the data management module; and LIVE VUE, the module for real-time viewing and distribution of the clinical data,” Turner added.

Sutton and Lewis answered questions about integrating the VIPER system with other OR devices and the process for securing hospital administration’s approval to acquire the system. Sutton confirmed that since the VIPER system is a software system, it integrates easily with all OR devices. As to hospital administration approval, Sutton said that “communication is key to getting their approval. Our process went smoothly and was fairly straightforward. The perfusion department did its homework so that we were able to explain and document the system’s value both for the hospital and for patients. As a result, administration was cooperative in approving the purchase.”

Following the federal government’s recent approval of an electronic medical records act (HITECH) it is important that perfusionists get involved early in the process to ensure that the EMR system their institution ultimately acquires meets perfusion’s clinical needs.

For more information on these products, you can either contact your local Medtronic representative, Spectrum Medical and their respective distributors in certain markets or visit www.spectrummedical.com.

Medtronic Perfusion plans to continue the great momentum experienced at the CREF Symposium at the upcoming Mechanisms of Perfusion Annual Conference in Orlando on May 19 – 22nd, 2011. Be sure to stop by the Medtronic booth to learn more about their commitment to perfusion solutions.