Coronary Artery Disease Fact Sheet

Like any muscle, the heart needs a constant supply of oxygen and nutrients, which blood carries to the heart via the coronary arteries. When the coronary arteries become narrowed or clogged with plaque and cannot supply enough blood to the heart, the result is Coronary Artery Disease (CAD). Below are some additional facts about CAD.

- About every 29 seconds an American will suffer a coronary event, and about every minute, someone will die from one.¹

- According to the most recent figures from the American Heart Association, coronary artery disease is the single leading cause of death in America today.¹

- Seven million Americans suffer from coronary artery disease, the most common form of heart disease.²

- It is often a combination of several risk factors that contribute to the development of coronary artery disease. Some of these risk factors include: high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, high cholesterol levels, stress, poor diet and lack of proper exercise.²

- Each year, more than 500,000 Americans die of heart attacks caused by coronary artery disease.²

- More than 95 percent of all coronary artery disease is due to atherosclerosis (cholesterol and calcium deposits).³

- Approximately four out of five people who die of coronary artery disease are age 65 or older.¹

- Coronary artery disease claims the lives of 236,468 females annually compared with 43,800 lives from breast cancer and 60,600 from lung cancer.³

- More than 500,000 coronary artery bypass surgeries are performed in the United States each year.¹

Medtronic, Inc., headquartered in Minneapolis, is the world’s leading medical technology company, providing lifelong solutions for people with chronic disease. Its Internet address is www.medtronic.com.

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References