PERSPECTIVE SYNOPSIS

Millions of Americans are affected by pain and have been prescribed systemic opioids (typically oral) as part of their treatment plan by healthcare providers. In the pain continuum, chronic pain can start with acute pain. Both pain types prompt an urgency of addressing patients’ needs, often with systemic opioids. This is despite the limited evidence on the benefits of long-term systemic opioid therapy and evidence that long-term systemic opioid therapy is associated with increased risk for opioid misuse or addiction. Here’s what is known about the misuse of prescription opioids:

- An estimated 10.3 million Americans are misusing opioids with 63.6% doing so to relieve physical pain.
- An estimated 25% of chronic pain patients are misusing prescription oral opioids.

A CDC review of scientific evidence yielded many mitigation steps to reduce the risks associated with long-term systemic opioid use, including misuse, addiction and overdose. In its guidelines, the CDC recommends patients with acute pain ask their doctors for treatment options that do not involve prescription opioids. In addition, for chronic pain, CDC recommends nonpharmacologic therapy and nonopioid pharmacologic therapy as preferred treatments. The FDA’s updated opioid education Blueprint includes the use of approved/cleared medical devices for pain management as one of several nonpharmacologic treatment options healthcare providers should be knowledgeable about as part of a multidisciplinary approach to pain management. Enacted into law on October 24, 2018, the federal SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act includes provisions to raise provider and patient awareness of alternative, non-oral opioid pain treatments, including medical device-delivered therapies.

As part of the comprehensive efforts in the United States to address the opioid epidemic, device-delivered therapies are being considered as an alternative or adjunct to systemic opioids in the management of acute and chronic pain. Device-delivered therapies of spinal cord stimulation, intrathecal pain pumps, and vertebral augmentation along with several other procedures have been identified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in The Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force Report as interventional procedures that can be considered.
singly or as part of a multimodal approach to the management of chronic and acute pain, depending on the patient and his or her medical conditions. Through greater awareness and use of device-delivered therapies, healthcare providers can reduce pain for many patients, potentially reducing their exposure to high dose opioid and/or long-term systemic opioid use that could lead to opioid misuse and addiction. As more patients effectively take control of their pain, these patients may no longer need to turn to misusing opioids to attempt to control their pain. This could help disrupt the opioid epidemic.

Medtronic Pain Therapies do not treat opioid addiction, but rather offer patients a way of managing their pain as an alternative or adjunct to systemic opioids. Medtronic has already published clinical evidence that shows reduction in the use of systemic opioids in managing and treating chronic pain with Targeted Drug Delivery (i.e. intrathecal pain pumps) and acute pain associated to vertebral compression fractures (VCF) using Balloon Kyphoplasty as a technology for vertebral augmentation. It is important to understand that not every patient experience is the same. We continue to invest in clinical trials designed to generate new evidence to help physicians make more informed pain treatment decisions.

Medtronic supports ongoing efforts by stakeholders across the U.S. – patients, providers, payers, regulators, elected officials, patient advocacy groups, and employers – as they pursue approaches for preventing and treating prescription opioid misuse, addiction, and overdose. Medtronic is playing an important role alongside other stakeholders in helping patients take control of their pain by:

- Informing patients with acute and chronic pain of their options for device-delivered pain relief as an alternative or adjunct to systemic opioids so that patients may have an informed discussion with their doctors.
- Partnering with providers to consider non-systemic opioid pain relief in treatment plans for patients with acute and chronic pain.
- Educating payers, policymakers, and regulators to enable greater patient access to medical devices shown to alleviate pain as an alternative or adjunct to systemic opioids.

SYSTEMIC OPIOIDS AND PAIN MANAGEMENT CRISES

There are two interrelated healthcare crises occurring in this area in the United States: the opioid epidemic, and the ongoing public health problem of inadequate pain management.

The Opioid Epidemic

The alarming opioid epidemic has had a devastating impact across the United States with 128 Americans dying every day from an opioid overdose in 2017. In 2018, opioids were involved in 46,802 overdose deaths and represented 69% of all fatal drug overdoses (67,367). As a result, public officials declared the opioid epidemic “the worst drug crisis in American history.”

Urgency of this epidemic has drawn the attention of all American elected officials and regulators. One area that regulators were quick to look at was prescription opioid use for pain relief and how they were then sourced among people whom misused them. In 2018, roughly 38% of people whom misused prescription pain relievers obtained them from one or more doctors. In addition to recommendations on prescribing opioids for pain relief, the CDC recommends nonpharmacological therapy and non-opioid pharmacologic therapy as the preferred treatments of chronic pain. If used, prescription opioids should be combined with other therapies, as appropriate.

Burden of mortality is highest among adults aged 25 to 34 years; in this age group, 1 in 5 deaths in the United States is opioid related.

Amongst 500 Human Resource professionals surveyed in America, 67 percent said their organizations “are impacted by opioid use today or will be in the future,” and 65 percent reported that opioid addiction is having a financial impact on their company.
An estimated **21% to 29%** of patients prescribed opioids for chronic pain misuse them. And, between **8% to 12%** of these patients develop an opioid use disorder.6

**Pain Management Problem**

The ongoing public health problem of pain management constitutes a crisis of its own.2 More than 100 million Americans experience chronic pain lasting greater than 3 months, costing the nation approximately $560-635 billion annually in direct medical treatment costs and lost productivity.2 Millions more experience pain caused by a specific event (e.g. surgery, broken bones, dental work, or childbirth) that may last for 6 months.26,27

Although research suggests systemic opioids are effective at reducing pain and improving function in the short term, evidence on long-term systemic opioid therapy for relieving pain is limited.3,7 Comparisons of opioids with nonopioid alternatives suggested that the benefit for pain and functioning may be similar.31 CDC has identified long-term prescription opioid use and high daily opioid doses as risk factors that could lead to abuse or overdose.32

Patients with chronic pain have voiced their frustration with the inability to access effective pain relief and the devastating sociological impacts this has had on their lives.34,35 These people are victims of chronic pain and the effects of the opioid epidemic on our society. Patients deserve other options for pain management through access to effective alternate and adjunct pain therapies.

**INSPIRED TO PROVIDE BETTER PAIN MANAGEMENT**

Medtronic has more than a 40-year history of developing innovative medical devices that have been shown to alleviate pain in different disease states.36 Moreover, we have established expertise to demonstrate clinical outcomes and health economics of these products.

Given the current opioid epidemic and pain management crisis, our work to alleviate pain has never been more critical. That is why we leverage our capabilities and product portfolio in partnership with stakeholders — patients, providers, payers, regulators, elected officials, patient advocacy groups, and employers — to address the unmet needs of pain patients.

We are aware no single entity can solve America’s opioid and pain crises alone. It is when we work in partnership that we expand patient access to non-systemic opioid pain management therapies. Therefore, we are pursuing collaboration with others in pain management to:
Broaden Therapy Awareness and Advocacy
- Increase stakeholder awareness of the clinical and economic evidence of device-delivered therapies along with the risks of long-term systemic opioid use to treat pain.
- Leverage social media networks, pain advocacy groups, and local treatment clinics to heighten patient awareness to device-delivered options that have been shown to treat pain or painful conditions. Only a physician can decide if these therapies are right for a patient.

Deliver Innovation
- Develop novel payment models for private and public payers that will help healthcare providers deploy evidence-based clinical workflows, guidelines, and policies for device-delivered therapies to manage pain or painful conditions.
- Explore with industry partners the use of medical technology to track objective patient metrics, coupled with clinical workflows, to deliver and monitor non-systemic opioid pain relief.

Advance Clinical and Economic Evidence
- Expand the body of existing clinical and economic evidence (independently and through partnerships with providers and payers) on the ability of Medtronic Pain Therapies — coupled with clinical workflows — to reduce or eliminate systemic opioid usage.
- Educate state and federal government officials about the need for policies to ensure patient access to the clinical and economic benefits of device-delivered therapies for pain or painful conditions.

MISSION-DRIVEN TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES

With our company mission to alleviate pain, restore health, and extend life, Medtronic strives to be at the forefront of medical device innovation, challenging ourselves to develop high-quality therapies for pain or painful conditions. Our view is that medical technology should not be only for reducing pain, but also for improving quality of life. And at every stage of the process — from technology advancements to physician training — we strive to understand the patient experience through the principles of human-centered design.

The Medtronic Pain Therapies portfolio includes implantable medical devices for Targeted Drug Delivery (TDD) and Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS) for chronic pain. Our portfolio also includes products indicated for: vertebral augmentation therapies such as Balloon Kyphoplasty (BKP) for vertebral compression fractures (VCF) due to osteoporosis, cancer or benign lesion; OsteoCoolTM radiofrequency ablation of painful bone tumors; and Sacroplasty for the treatment of pathological sacral fractures. These minimally invasive technologies treat these conditions, which are associated with acute pain. To date, over a million patients have received treatment from Medtronic Pain Therapies. In addition to the risks of surgery, the medical devices discussed in this paper carry significant risks. Please refer to the important safety information at the end of document.

While these therapies do not treat addiction, they can help patients manage their pain. Medtronic is committed to providing clinical evidence and in studying the use of systemic opioids in managing and treating chronic pain with TDD and acute pain associated to VCF with BKP. Through our medical education and ongoing clinical support programs, we continuously strive to educate about device therapies as an option in pain management with the goal that fewer patients will need to rely on long-term systemic opioid use.

Along with clinical evidence demonstrating pain relief, we have strong coverage and reimbursement in the United States for clinical indications recognized and covered by government and non-government payers. For example:
Two retrospective claims analyses found that 43 and 51 percent, respectively, of chronic non-malignant pain patients eliminated systemic opioids within one year of TDD therapy.\textsuperscript{17,47}

In the second study which evaluated patients starting TDD therapy between 2012–2015, overall (regardless of discontinuation), 82% reduced their average daily morphine milligram equivalents (MME) in the year following start of TDD therapy relative to one-year baseline MME values.\textsuperscript{47}

Among patients that eliminated systemic opioid use, the mean annual per-patient medical and pharmacy cost savings to the payer in the first year of therapy were $11,115 relative to patients who continued, a 29% reduction.\textsuperscript{47}

- TDD and SCS are covered by Medicare under national and local coverage determinations.
- BKP has coverage from all Medicare MAC's via Local Coverage Determinations.
- Most commercial payers have published coverage determinations for all our Medtronic Pain Therapies.

Knowing how and when to use alternative and adjunctive therapies to systemic opioids is more important than ever. That is why, before committing to long-term treatment, physicians will have their patients undergo a trial for some therapies (i.e. TDD and SCS) to experience the therapy.

**MEDTRONIC PAIN THERAPIES**

**Targeted Drug Delivery**

Targeted Drug Delivery (TDD) with SynchroMed\textsuperscript{TM} II, also known as a pain pump or intrathecal drug delivery system (IDDS), for the treatment of chronic intractable pain, including intractable cancer pain, provides pain relief at a fraction of the oral medication dose.\textsuperscript{39–42} An implanted, programmable pump and catheter releases prescribed amounts of pain medication directly into the intrathecal space, near pain receptors in the spine instead of the circulatory system. The CONTROL Workflow\textsuperscript{SM} in combination with SynchroMed \textsuperscript{TM} II encourages systemic opioid elimination and is an alternative to long-term systemic opioids.

Intrathecal drug delivery has been shown to improve patients’ ability to function, return to work, and participate in activities of daily living.\textsuperscript{39,41,43,44} In addition to effective pain relief, TDD has been shown to reduce or eliminate use of oral pain medication and to reduce side effects compared to systemic pain medication.\textsuperscript{17,39–42,45–47}

TDD is often viewed as a “salvage therapy” when high dose systemic opioid therapy has not worked. This is despite success of the therapy as demonstrated in randomized controlled trials, and the demonstrated cost effectiveness of the therapy.\textsuperscript{17,40,48–52}

The implanted pump stores and dispenses medication inside the body, reducing the opportunity for diversion of the drug, for misuse by individuals who are not prescribed the opioids. Additionally, the physician programs the pump to deliver a certain amount of medication, allowing more physician control compared to systemic opioid therapy, reducing the opportunity for misuse of prescribed opioids.

Systemic opioid dose levels prior to initiation of TDD have shown significant correlation with ultimate patient success with TDD. In a retrospective study of 631 patients, those whose MME was ≤ 50 mg/day had two times the odds of discontinuing systemic opioids following initiation of TDD (OR = 2.08, 95% confidence interval 1.42–3.02, p = 0.001).\textsuperscript{17} Knowing that systemic dosing levels and intrathecal dose levels matter, Medtronic developed The Control Workflow\textsuperscript{SM} for TDD providing a pain relief option utilizing a low-dose protocol with the SynchroMed\textsuperscript{TM} II intrathecal drug delivery system and as guidance for eliminating systemic opioids. This workflow assists physicians with patient selection and includes oral opioid weaning and treatment protocols that can be tailored to individual patients. By having an outlined workflow for physicians, we are working to simplify the therapy and expand patient access to TDD therapy.

Medtronic is currently sponsoring the Embrace TDD Post Market Clinical Study that will evaluate the use of the SynchroMed\textsuperscript{TM} II intrathecal drug delivery system as an alternative to oral opioids for patients with chronic intractable non-malignant primary back pain with or without leg pain.\textsuperscript{54} The study will follow patients who wean completely from all oral opioids and...
have a positive response to an intrathecal drug trial. The study will assess pain control and opioid-related side effects at six months following a route of delivery change to intrathecal preservative-free morphine sulfate.

**Spinal Cord Stimulation**

Medtronic’s Intellis™ implantable neurostimulator for Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS) is the smallest spinal cord stimulator implanted under the skin to deliver mild electrical pulses to the spine. SCS modifies pain messages before they reach the brain and has proven to provide long-term effective pain relief and improve quality of life. In addition to pain relief, spinal cord stimulation is more cost-effective than conventional medical management and reoperation. Multiple studies have provided clinical evidence to suggest some patients treated with Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS) may be able to reduce oral opioid consumption. Spinal cord stimulation is more effective than repeat surgery for persistent radicular pain after lumbosacral spine surgery.

As a platform technology, Medtronic is providing more than just pain relief with the Intellis neurostimulator. This is the only platform that has embedded measurable activity data through Snapshot™ reporting, which tracks and shares activity, body positions and therapy usage continuously. Snapshot complements patient self-reporting with an objective look at their mobility. By reporting objective activity data, Intellis offers physicians insights into patient treatment beyond patient-reported pain scores. This may enable better treatment personalization to support improvement in function.

**Interventional Pain Therapies**

Vertebral compression fractures (VCF) are associated with a downward spiral of complications, including decreased mobility, pain, and function. While vertebral augmentation (VA) is not for everyone, Balloon Kyphoplasty (BKP) and vertebroplasty (VP) are important treatment options to consider for patients with vertebral compression fractures (VCF) due to osteoporosis, cancer or benign lesion.

Early diagnosis and interventional treatment are important steps to avoiding complications associated with VCFs. To help physicians navigate this complex condition, Medtronic is proud to support a VCF multispecialty panel of experts in recommending a clinical care pathway to guide physicians in treating the common condition of vertebral fragility fractures.

"VCF Clinical Care Pathway" was recently developed by a multi-specialty panel of physicians and published in August 2018. The study – which included a systematic literature review of 83 randomized controlled trials, systematic reviews, and observational studies – aims to support greater consistency in the early diagnosis and treatment of VCFs with a goal to establish a clinical care pathway for patients with VCF to include: Key signs and symptoms of suspected VCF, Diagnostic evaluation of patients with suspected VCF, Appropriateness criteria for vertebral augmentation (VA) or nonsurgical management (NSM), Contraindications for VA and Follow-up after treatment.
Kyphon™ Balloon Kyphoplasty (BKP) is a minimally invasive vertebral augmentation technology that uses orthopedic balloons to restore vertebral height and correct angular deformity due to vertebral compression fractures (VCF) from osteoporosis, cancer or benign lesion. After reduction, the balloons are deflated and removed. The resulting cavity (void) allows for a controlled deposition of Kyphon bone cement forming an internal cast and stabilizing the fracture. Risks of the procedure include cement leakage, which may cause tissue damage, nerve or circulatory problems, and other serious adverse events.18,64-66

A prospective, randomized controlled trial (Free Study, 2011 N = 300) reported that Kyphon™ Balloon Kyphoplasty offers important clinical benefits compared to non-surgical management, including pain relief, reduced opioid use, and improved quality of life.18

**TOGETHER TO FIND LASTING SOLUTIONS**

Millions of Americans are affected by the opioid epidemic, and their best hope is partners in healthcare coming together to create lasting solutions. Healthcare providers, payers, elected officials, regulators and patient advocacy groups all hold important pieces to the puzzle and must work together. It starts with novel care pathways and personalized treatment options to help these patients break their cycle of misuse or dependency. Solutions must also help the approximately 6.9 million patients who misuse opioids to alleviate pain, and these patients need effective policies and programs that will expand access to medical devices shown to relieve pain as an alternative or adjunct to systemic opioids.71

Partnership is the path forward in addressing the systemic opioid and pain management crises. All stakeholders must work together, pursuing effective policies and programs that will expand patient access to medical technologies shown to relieve pain as an alternative or adjunct to systemic opioids.
SynchroMed® II Drug Infusion System Brief Statement:

Review product technical manuals, including information about EMI, and the appropriate drug labeling prior to use for detailed disclosure.

**Indications:** US: Chronic intrathecal infusion of Infumorph® preservative-free morphine sulfate sterile solution in the treatment of chronic intractable pain, Prialt® chronic intrathecal infusion of preservative-free ziconotide sterile solution for the management of severe chronic pain, and chronic intrathecal infusion of Lioresal® Intrathecal (baclofen injection) for the management of severe spasticity. Outside of US: Chronic infusion of drugs or fluids tested as compatible and listed in the product labeling.

**Drug Information:** Refer to appropriate drug labeling for indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions, dosage and administration, screening procedures, and under-/ overdose symptoms and methods of management. Patients should be informed of the signs and symptoms of drug under- or overdose, appropriate drug warnings and precautions, and signs and symptoms that require medical attention.

**Contraindications:** System implant is contraindicated in the presence of an infection; implant depth greater than 2.5 cm below skin; insufficient body size; and spinal anomalies. Use of the system with drugs with preservatives and drug formulations with pH >3. Use of CAP kit for refills or of refill kit for catheter access and use of PTM to administer opioid to opioid-naïve patients.

**Warnings:** Non-indicated formulations may contain neurotoxic preservatives, antimicrobials, or antioxidants, or may be incompatible with and damage the system. Failure to comply with all product instructions, including use of drugs or fluids not indicated for use with system, or of questionable sterility or quality, or use of non-Medtronic components or inappropriate kits, can result in improper use, technical errors, increased risks to patient, tissue damage, damage to the system requiring revision or replacement, and/or change in therapy, and may result in additional surgical procedures, a return of underlying symptoms, and/or a clinically significant or fatal drug under- or overdose.

An inflammatory mass that can result in serious neurological impairment, including paralysis, may occur at the tip of the implanted catheter. Clinicians should monitor patients carefully for any new neurological signs or symptoms, change in underlying symptoms, or need for rapid dose escalation. Monitor patients appropriately after refill if a pocket fill is suspected. Failure to recognize signs and symptoms of pocket fill and seek appropriate medical intervention can result in serious injury or death. Overinfusion may lead to underdose or overdose symptoms. Strong sources of electromagnetic interference (EMI) can negatively interact with the pump and cause heating of the implanted pump, system damage, or changes in pump operation or flow rate, that can result in patient injury from tissue heating, additional surgical procedures, a return of underlying symptoms, and/or a clinically significant or fatal drug under- or overdose. The SynchroMed II system is MR Conditional; consult the labeling for MRI information.

**Precautions:** Monitor patients after pump or catheter replacement for signs of underdose/ overdose. Infuse preservative-free saline at minimum flow rate if therapy is discontinued for an extended period to avoid system damage. EMI may interfere with programmer telemetry during pump programming sessions.

**Adverse Events:** In addition to procedure-related risks, the following may occur: pocket seroma; hematoma; erosion; infection; pump inversion; post-lumbar puncture risks (spinal headache), CSF leak and rare central nervous system pressure-related problems; radiculitis; arachnoiditis; spinal cord bleeding/damage; meningitis; neurological impairment (including paralysis) due to inflammatory mass; allergic response to implant materials; surgical replacement due to end of service life or component failure; loss of therapy; drug overdose, or inability to program the pump due to component failure; catheter complications resulting in tissue damage or loss of or change in therapy; potential serious adverse effects from catheter fragments in intrathecal space.

For full prescribing information, please call Medtronic at 1-800-328-0810 and/or consult Medtronic’s website at www.medtronic.com

Infumorph® is a registered trademark of West-Ward Pharmaceutical. Prialt® is a registered trademark of TerSera Therapeutics LLC. Lioresal® is a registered trademark of Solvay.

USA Rx Only
Rev 1118

Neurostimulation Systems for Pain Therapy

**INDICATIONS** Spinal cord stimulation (SCS) is indicated as an aid in the management of chronic, intractable pain of the trunk and/or limbs—including unilateral or bilateral pain.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS** Diathermy - Energy from diathermy can be transferred through the implanted system and cause tissue damage resulting in severe injury or death.

**WARNINGS** Sources of electromagnetic interference (e.g., defibrillation, electrocautery, MRI, RF ablation, and therapeutic ultrasound) can interact with the system, resulting in unexpected changes in stimulation, serious patient injury or death. An implanted cardiac device (e.g., pacemaker, defibrillator) may damage a neurostimulator, and electrical pulses from the neurostimulator may cause inappropriate response of the cardiac device.

**PRECAUTIONS** Safety and effectiveness has not been established for pediatric use, pregnancy, unborn fetus, or delivery. Avoid activities that put stress on the implanted neurostimulation system components. Recharging a rechargeable neurostimulator may result in skin irritation or redness near the implant site.

**ADVERSE EVENTS** May include: undesirable change in stimulation (uncomfortable, jolting or shocking); hematoma, epidural hemorrhage, paralysis, seroma, infection, erosion, device malfunction or migration, pain at implant site, loss of pain relief, and other surgical risks.

Refer to www.medtronic.com for product manuals for complete indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions and potential adverse events.

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Rev 0119

Kyphon Balloon Kyphoplasty and Sacroplasty Important Safety Information

Kyphon Xpede™ Bone Cement and Kyphon HV-R™ Bone Cement are indicated for the treatment of pathologic fractures of the vertebral body due to osteoporosis, cancer, or benign lesions using a cementoplasty (i.e. kyphoplasty or vertebroplasty) procedure. It is also indicated for the fixation of pathologic fractures of the sacral vertebral body or ala using sacral vertebroplasty or sacroplasty. Cancer includes multiple myeloma and metastatic lesions, including those arising from breast or lung cancer, or lymphoma. Benign lesions include hemangioma and giant cell tumor. Pathologic fracture may include a symptomatic vertebral body microfracture (as documented by appropriate imaging and/or presence of a lytic lesion) without obvious loss of vertebral body height.

Risks of acrylic bone cements include cement leakage, which may cause tissue damage, nerve or circulatory problems, and other serious adverse events, such as: cardiac arrest, cerebrovascular accident, myocardial infarction, pulmonary embolism, or cardiac embolism.

Osteocool Important Safety Information

The OsteoCool™ RF Ablation System is intended for the palliative treatment in spinal procedures by ablation of metastatic malignant lesions in a vertebral body and of benign bone tumors such as osteoid osteoma. It is also intended for coagulation and ablation of tissue in bone during surgical procedures, including palliation of pain associated with metastatic lesions involving bone in patients who have failed or are not candidates for standard therapy.

Risks of the system include damage to surrounding tissue through iatrogenic injury as a consequence of electrosurgery; pulmonary embolism; nerve injury including thermal injury, puncture of the spinal cord or nerve roots potentially resulting in radiculopathy, paresis, or paralysis.
References


40. Smith TJ, Staatss PS, Deer T, et al. Randomized clinical trial of an implantable drug delivery system compared with comprehensive medical management for refractory cancer pain: impact


