

# National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

## 261 – Percutaneous (non-thoracoscopic) epicardial catheter radiofrequency ablation for atrial fibrillation

### Consultation Comments table

IPAC date: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Com. no.	Consultee name and organisation	Sec. no.	Comments	Response Please respond to all comments
1	Consultee 1 Medical devices company Medtronic	1	We believe that the provisional recommendation is reasonable and reflects the current evidence base. When long-term data becomes available we will inform the Institute and request a review of the guidance.	Thank you for your comment.
2	Consultee 1 Medical devices company Medtronic	2.1	No comments to be added.	Noted.
3	Consultee 1 Medical devices company Medtronic	2.2	No comments to be added.	Noted.

Com. no.	Consultee name and organisation	Sec. no.	Comments	Response Please respond to all comments
4	Consultee 1 Medical devices company Medtronic	<b>2.3 and 2.4</b>	<p>We have identified one additional study which should have been identified under the inclusion criteria for this IPG.</p> <p>We believe this should be further considered and attach it for your review: "Minimally invasive off-pump video-assisted endoscopic surgical pulmonary vein isolation using bipolar radiofrequency ablation" Piotr Suwalski, Grzegorz Suwalski, Rados Wilimski, Janusz Kochanowski, Piotr Scis, Hanna Gaca, Zbigniew Popiel, Julita Smolarska, Kazimierz Suwalski Â Department of Cardiac Surgery, Medical University, Warsaw, Poland. Kardiologia Polska 2007 65: 4 Key messages/design summary: -Report on the feasibility and early results of the first Polish experience with a novel technique of minimally invasive video-assisted beating heart bilateral surgical ablation for lone paroxysmal AF using irrigated bipolar radiofrequency technique -Patients with highly symptomatic paroxysmal AF, resistant to pharmacological treatment, underwent video-assisted beating heart bilateral pulmonary vein isolation using irrigated bipolar radiofrequency combined with vein of Marshall dissection and left atrial appendage closure.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. This study refers to thoracoscopic RF ablation (not percutaneous) for atrial fibrillation on which NICE published guidance in January 2009 (IPG286). The study was included in the overview for IP286, which is available on NICE's website.</p>

*"Comments received in the course of consultations carried out by NICE are published in the interests of openness and transparency, and to promote understanding of how recommendations are developed. The comments are published as a record of the submissions that NICE has received, and are not endorsed by NICE, its officers or advisory committees."*