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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE CARDIAC & VASCULAR INSTITUTE OFFERS THE WORLD’S SMALLEST PACEMAKER

Miniaturized Heart Device Provides Patients with the Most Advanced Pacing Technology Available

Gainesville, FL December 11, 2017 – The Cardiac and Vascular Institute (TCAVI) announced that it is one of the first cardiology practices in Florida to offer the world’s smallest pacemaker for patients with bradycardia. The Micra[®] Transcatheter Pacing System (TPS) is a new type of heart device, approved for Medicare reimbursement, that provides patients with the most advanced pacing technology at one-tenth the size of a traditional pacemaker. The first procedure was performed by Steven Roark, M.D., FACC and Michael Jansen, M.D., FACC, FHRS at North Florida Regional Medical Center on December 6, 2017.

Bradycardia is a condition characterized by a slow or irregular heart rhythm, usually fewer than 60 beats per minute. At this rate, the heart is unable to pump enough oxygen-rich blood to the body during normal activity or exercise, causing dizziness, fatigue, shortness of breath or fainting spells. Pacemakers are the most common way to treat bradycardia to help restore the heart’s normal rhythm and relieve symptoms by sending electrical impulses to the heart to increase the heart rate.

Comparable in size to a large vitamin, TCAVI physicians at North Florida Regional Medical Center have elected to use Medtronic’s Micra TPS because unlike traditional pacemakers, the device does not require cardiac wires (leads) or a surgical “pocket” under the skin to deliver a pacing therapy. Instead, the device is small enough to be delivered through a catheter and implanted directly into the heart with small tines, providing a safe alternative to conventional pacemakers without the complications associated with leads – all while being cosmetically invisible. The Micra TPS is also designed to automatically adjust pacing therapy based on a patient’s activity levels.

“The Micra pacemaker is a tremendous technologic advance. It is extremely small with a battery longevity equal to or greater than the traditional pacemakers. Once implanted, the patient will not even know they have a pacemaker,” says Steven Roark, M.D., FACC of The Cardiac & Vascular Institute.



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The Micra TPS is the first and only transcatheter pacing system to be approved for both 1.5 and 3 Tesla (T) full-body magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans and is designed to allow patients to be followed by their physicians and send data remotely via the Medtronic CareLink[®] Network.

The Micra TPS was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in April 2016, and has been granted Medicare reimbursement, allowing broad patient access to the novel pacing technology.

About The Cardiac & Vascular Institute

The Cardiac & Vascular Institute (TCAVI) has offices in both Gainesville and Lake City, Florida. The physicians of TCAVI are board certified in every aspect of cardiology providing state of the art diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive cardiac services by utilizing the best in both the technology and the art of medicine.

Visit www.TCAVI.com or call (352) 375-1212 to learn about Cardiac & Vascular Institute and the additional services offered by TCAVI.

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