

## **Urgent Field Safety Notice**

### **InterStim™ Therapy Programmer Compatibility**

#### **Important Device Information**

May 2019

Medtronic reference: FA863

Dear Healthcare Professional,

This letter is to notify you of the potential for an unexpected increase in stimulation during InterStim programming with the A510 Clinician Application (on Medtronic's smart programmer). This issue may occur during device programming, which is performed by the healthcare professional in a clinical setting. Included in this notification are steps that can be taken to prevent the issue which you may have previously been made aware of via your Medtronic sales associate.

#### **Background on Issue:**

The issue occurs when enabling a new program on an InterStim implantable neurostimulator (INS) with the A510 Clinician Application if the InterStim INS has previously been interrogated or programmed with an N'Vision™ Clinician programmer (8840). This issue can result in the InterStim INS amplitude increasing from 0 volts immediately to the amplitude upper limit, rather than increasing in 0.05 – 0.5 volt increments. This has been reported while using the InterStim smart programmer handset with communicator and A510 Clinician Application (Models TH90G02 and TH90G03). The A510 Clinician Application programming guide does not describe the use of both the smart programmer and legacy programmers, such as the N'Vision Clinician programmer, on the same INS.

The patient risk associated with this issue is temporary pain that subsides when the stimulation is stopped by the clinician (using the "Stop Therapy" button on the programmer screen). The temporary pain is due to the sudden stimulation at the maximum available amplitude setting rather than an increase in stimulation of 0.05-0.5volt increments.

Since January 2019, Medtronic has received ten (10) reports of amplitude increasing to maximum while using the smart programmer. During these events, patients have reported sudden painful stimulation that was immediately resolved when the onscreen "Stop Therapy" button was pressed by the clinician performing the programming.

#### **Recommendation:**

Avoid programming using the A510 Clinician Application on an InterStim INS that has previously been interrogated or programmed using the N'Vision Clinician programmer. See Figure 1 for images of both the N'Vision Clinician programmer and the smart programmer.

- Only use the N'Vision Clinician programmer to program an InterStim INS that is managed with iCon™ (Model 3037) patient programmers.
- Only use the smart programmer to program an InterStim INS that is managed with smart programmers.

- If the N'Vision Clinician programmer was used on an InterStim INS prior to using a smart programmer on the same INS, ensure that the maximum amplitude limit for all programs is either OFF or has a specific value set. Guidance for setting the amplitude limit can be found in the A510 Clinician App for Sacral Neuromodulation Therapy Clinician Programming Guide located on [emanuals.medtronic.com](http://emanuals.medtronic.com).

If the issue is encountered and the amplitude increases to an undesired value, press the "Stop Therapy" button on the screen to immediately stop therapy. To complete programming and therapy adjustments, ensure that the maximum amplitude limit for all programs is either OFF or has a specific value set. At this point, amplitude can be increased at the expected interval.



N'Vision Clinician Programmer  
Model 8840



Smart programmer handset with communicator  
Models TH90G02 and TH90G03

**Figure 1** – InterStim therapy clinician programmers

Please maintain a copy of this notice in your records.

Medtronic has notified the Competent Authority of your country of this action.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience this may cause. Medtronic is committed to patient safety and appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact your Medtronic Representative Directly or via Tel No: 01 511 1400.

Sincerely,

Keith Taverner  
Regulatory Affairs Manager UK & Ireland