



Urgent Field Safety Notice

July 2022

Subject: Update – Enhanced Battery Depletion (BD) alert for earlier detection of hydrogen-induced accelerated battery depletion in Model A209 and A219 EMBLEM™ Subcutaneous Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (S-ICDs).¹ Boston Scientific Field Action Reference: 92400926E-FA.

Affected product models and GTIN numbers for the hydrogen-induced accelerated battery depletion advisory populations¹ composed of a subset of approximately 28,000 active EMBLEM S-ICDs.

| Product Name | Model | GTIN | Product Name | Model | GTIN |
|--------------|-------|----------------|------------------|-------|----------------|
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526544101 | EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575204 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526548406 | EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575211 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575105 | EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575228 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575112 | EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526599002 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575129 | | | |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575136 | EMBLEM MRI S-ICD | A219 | 00802526581519 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575143 | EMBLEM MRI S-ICD | A219 | 00802526584404 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575167 | EMBLEM MRI S-ICD | A219 | 00802526584411 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575174 | EMBLEM MRI S-ICD | A219 | 00802526590429 |
| EMBLEM S-ICD | A209 | 00802526575181 | EMBLEM MRI S-ICD | A219 | 00802526590436 |

Dear Physician or Healthcare Professional,

In December 2020, Boston Scientific committed to developing a software enhancement that detects and alerts healthcare professionals (HCPs) if an EMBLEM S-ICD exhibits hydrogen-induced accelerated battery depletion. This enhanced software allows clinicians to identify EMBLEM S-ICDs exhibiting hydrogen-induced accelerated battery depletion sooner. Once regulatory approval is granted in your country, Boston Scientific is preparing to launch software in the following months for installation on the Model 3200 and 3300 Programmers.

When an EMBLEM S-ICD is first interrogated by an upgraded programmer, the user will be notified via the programmer screen of the initiation of the update and a status bar will display indicating the progress of the update. This software update enhances the current BD alert to detect hydrogen-induced accelerated depletion between in-office visits or LATITUDE™ remote interrogations. If depletion conditions are met, a BD alert is initiated, and the device emits 16 beeping tones every 9 hours (if beeping tones are enabled). For devices enrolled/active on LATITUDE, HCPs will be notified of a BD alert after a successful transmission from the patient’s in-home LATITUDE communicator.

Current Status. Since the December 2020 communication, the malfunction rates for the approximately 28,000 active devices that compose the combined August 2019 and December 2020 advisory populations have converged to approximately 11.9% at 5 years. This behavior continues to be highly detectable. 99.5% of the 3,611 S-ICDs that have exhibited this behavior were replaced before the battery reached a depleted state. Based on the malfunction rate and detectability of hydrogen-induced accelerated battery depletion, the theoretical potential for life-threatening harm is projected at 1 in 250,000 at 5 years. The most common associated clinical outcome is early replacement and there have been no deaths associated with this behavior.

¹ Boston Scientific originally communicated in August 2019 and expanded the population in December 2020. Boston Scientific’s Product Performance Report (PPR) includes advisory information at www.BostonScientific.com/ppr

In August 2018, Boston Scientific transitioned EMBLEM S-ICDs to an alternative low voltage capacitor. EMBLEM S-ICDs built with this contemporary low voltage capacitor have NOT exhibited this depletion behavior.

Recommendations. The December 2020 ongoing follow-up recommendations for managing devices with the potential for hydrogen-induced accelerated depletion are unchanged. Specific to this software update, Boston Scientific recommends:

- Programmer Software Upgrade. Confirm programmers at your center have been upgraded.
 - Model 3300 LATITUDE Programmers are supported with Model 3877 v1.03 application.
 - Model 3200 EMBLEM Programmers are supported with Model 2877 v4.09 application.
- Next Follow-up. Boston Scientific continues to recommend 3-month device follow-ups per labeling. Bearing in mind the risk versus benefits of in-person visits in the setting of the global COVID-19 pandemic, consider an in-person visit at the next scheduled follow-up, so the enhanced BD alert can be enabled in each affected device.
 - When an EMBLEM S-ICD is first interrogated by an upgraded programmer, an S-ICD software update will be performed. Per labeling, monitor the patient and have external defibrillation equipment available as tachycardia therapy is suspended during a S-ICD software update.
 - If a BD alert occurs, follow screen prompts and contact Technical Services. Using device data, Technical Services can provide a replacement interval.
- Update Records. For each patient with an affected EMBLEM S-ICD, append their medical record with this letter to maintain awareness of this topic for the remaining service life of the device.
- Distribute This Letter. Please distribute this update to all other physicians and healthcare professionals within or outside your organization who need to be aware of this topic.

Adverse reactions or quality problems experienced with the use of these, or any devices should be reported to Boston Scientific and your local regulatory authority, as applicable. Up-to-date product performance information about this topic, including a device lookup tool², is available within our Product Performance Resource Center at www.bostonscientific.com/ppr.

If you have additional questions regarding this information or would like to report a clinical event, please contact your Boston Scientific representative or Technical Services.

Yours sincerely,



Alexandra Naughton
Vice President, Quality Assurance