

PETERBOROUGH REGIONAL CARDIAC DEVICE CLINIC

Telephone: 705.740.6888

FAX: 705.749.9611

*A Joint Programme of the Peterborough Regional Health Centre
and Kawartha Cardiology Clinic*

February 21, 2005

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dear

We write to advise of a potential problem with the battery in your defibrillator/pacing device.

It has been found that certain models of Medtronic devices may develop an unexpected rapid loss of energy. It is important to understand that, for most patients, the likelihood of this happening in the foreseeable future is only about one in ten thousand. Since one in ten thousand is the same rate as components fail randomly in implanted devices like pacemakers, many of you may choose to do nothing about this.

Depending upon the original reason for your device implant, some patients may be at a little higher risk. In order to manage this situation as carefully as possible, we have decided to see all of the affected patients in the Pacemaker Clinic within the next few days. At that visit you will receive more information about this matter and we will advise you on the specific risks in your situation. If we think you should have the device replaced we will, subject to your approval, make the arrangements and set the date for surgery. In most cases, surgery will just involve a "pack change" type of operation under local anesthetic.

Your special clinic appointment will be: _____ at _____ .

Because we are going to be seeing a lot of patients in the next few days we would greatly appreciate it if you would make every effort to attend on the assigned date and time. Our staff will be very busy and we would rather they not spend time juggling appointments and responding to request for changes.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Please verify you have received this letter and will attend by leaving a message at: 705.740.6888 Ext. 230 (Please place your calls **after** 5 p.m.)

Yours sincerely

William G. Hughes MD, FRCPC
Medical Director

Jennifer A. Fraser, Reg. N
Clinic Manager