



# Fact Sheet

## Abbott's Bioabsorbable Drug Eluting Coronary Stent

### **History of Stenting**

A stent is a small, lattice-shaped tube that is inserted into an artery to help hold it open and allow blood to flow through. The first stents, implanted beginning in 1986, were made of metal; they have become more flexible and easier to deliver over time. In the late 1990s, the focus moved toward developing drug eluting stents, sometimes called coated or medicated stents; the first drug eluting stents became widely available in the United States in 2003. Drug eluting stents consist of a stent, polymer, drug and drug delivery system. The drug is released over time, potentially reducing the likelihood that the artery will become blocked again. Today, new stenting technologies are on the horizon, including bioabsorbable drug eluting stents.

### **About Abbott's Bioabsorbable Drug Eluting Coronary Stent**

Abbott's bioabsorbable drug eluting stent\*, made of polylactic acid material, delivers everolimus, a drug that inhibits tissue proliferation, and provides support until the blood vessel heals, restoring blood flow. The stent is fully absorbed over time by the vascular tissue as part of the body's normal processes. If clinical results are positive, bioabsorbable drug eluting stents could eventually offer an alternative to the metallic drug eluting stents available to patients today.

### **Potential Benefits of a Bioabsorbable Drug Eluting Coronary Stent**

The goal of bioabsorbable drug eluting stent technology is to offer potential benefits over current market products, such as the following.

- Reduced metal in the body.
- Possible improvements in long-term safety.
- Compatibility with CT and MRI imaging for non-invasive follow-up.
- Increased conformability – bioabsorbable stent material is more flexible than metal.

\* Bioabsorbable drug eluting stent is currently in development at Abbott Vascular. Not available for sale.

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**About Abbott's ABSORB Clinical Trial**

ABSORB is the world's first clinical trial designed to evaluate the safety of a fully bioabsorbable everolimus eluting stent platform for the treatment of coronary artery disease. It is a single-arm study that will enroll up to 110 patients in Belgium, Denmark, France, New Zealand, Poland and the Netherlands. Endpoints of the study include assessments of safety – Major Adverse Clinical Events (MACE) and stent thrombosis (blood clot formation) rates – at 30, 180 and 270 days, with an annual follow-up for up to five years, and successful deployment of the bioabsorbable drug eluting stent. Other key endpoints of the study include follow-up measurements assessed by angiography, IVUS, and state-of-the-art imaging modalities at 180 days and two years, as well as a new noninvasive technique in a subset of patients at 18 months.

One-year results in the trial demonstrated no stent thrombosis and a low major adverse cardiac event (MACE) rate at 12 months (1 patient, 3.4%, n=29), with no additional MACE, including no re-treatment of a diseased lesion (ischemia-driven target lesion revascularization) since six months for patients who received a bioabsorbable stent. Abbott will present two-year results from the ABSORB trial at the 20th annual Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT) scientific symposium in October 2008.

**About Abbott Vascular's Drug Eluting Stent Program**

Abbott Vascular's flagship drug eluting stent is the XIENCE V™ Everolimus Eluting Coronary Stent System. In April 2006, Abbott acquired the vascular intervention and endovascular solutions businesses of Guidant Corporation, which had been the U.S. market leader in metallic stents since the introduction of the company's first stent system in 1997.

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