More good news from Medtronic's Symplicity high blood pressure trial

Mass Device

An analysis in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* shows that renal denervation is a cost-effective treatment for high blood pressure, more good news out of Medtronic's Symplicity renal denervation trial.

An analysis of data from Medtronic [1]'s (NYSE:MDT [2]) Symplicity HTN 2 renal denervation trial showed that the procedure is a cost-effective way to treat resistant hypertension, or high blood pressure.

It's more good news for the Fridley, Minn.-based medical device monolith, which is still riding high on strong results for the technology released at the recent annual meeting of the American College of Cardiology.

The latest study, published yesterday in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, shows that the catheter-based technique, in which doctors blast the nerves lining the renal artery with radiofequency energy, could be much, much cheaper and more effective than the current standard of care.

"Our results indicate that RDN might be cost-effective when compared to other, well-accepted medical treatments with an incremental cost-effectiveness ratio that is markedly below the commonly accepted threshold of $50,000 per [quality-adjusted life-year]," the researchers wrote [3]. "Moreover, there might be an approximately 1 in 5 chance that RDN is cost-saving in the investigated cohort. Although RDN therapy represents an additional cost at time of treatment, it seems to offer great value over time."

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