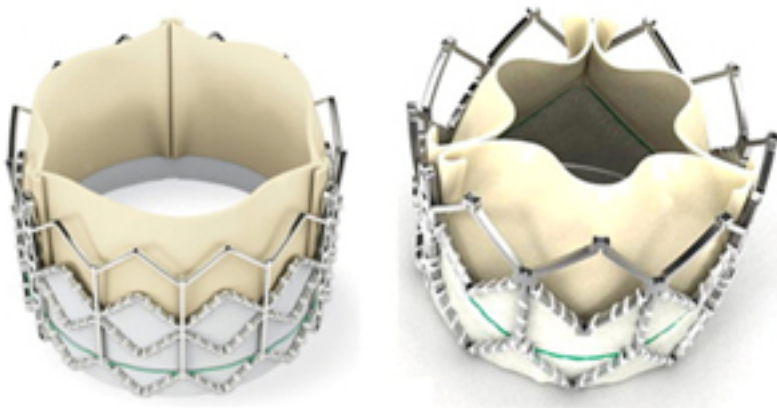


Early results "encouraging" for Edwards' redesigned Sapien XT valve

Mass Device

Edwards Lifesciences' redesigned Sapien XT transcatheter aortic valve implantation system demonstrates non-inferiority to the original Sapien device, according to results unveiled at the American College of Cardiology conference in San Francisco.



Medical device maker [Edwards Lifesciences](#) [1] (NYSE:[EW](#) [2]) unveiled results from the 1st randomized study of its Sapien XT transcatheter aortic valve replacement system, reporting non-significant improvements in safety when compared with the original Sapien system.

The PARTNER II trial's Cohort B was designed to demonstrate that the Sapien XT was at least non-inferior to Sapien classic in terms of safety and efficacy in treating patients too sick to undergo open-heart surgery. The study was a win in that regard, with many of the short- and long-term outcomes of the devices falling along similar lines.

At 30 days all-cause mortality for the Sapien XT was 3.5%, compared to 5.1% for the original Sapien valve, according to Edwards. Although the findings missed the mark for statistical significance, it was a victory for the Sapien line.

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<http://www.mdtmag.com/news/2013/03/early-results-encouraging-edwards-redesigned-sapien-xt-valve>

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[1] <http://www.massdevice.com/company/edwards-lifesciences>

[2] <http://www.google.com/finance?q=ew>