

Boston Scientific

Boston Scientific Launches Educational Initiative to Address Disparities in Cardiovascular Care

'Close the Gap' brings together advocates from cardiologists to coaches

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NATICK, Mass., Feb. 4 [PRNewswire-FirstCall](#)/ -- Boston Scientific Corporation (NYSE: BSX) today announced the public debut of an educational initiative called "Close the Gap," which is aimed at addressing disparities in cardiovascular care for the underserved patient populations of women, black Americans and Latino Americans. The Company said it is collaborating on the [Close the Gap initiative](#) with a number of organizations, including WomenHeart, Black Coaches and Administrators, the Athlete's Heartbeat and the National Coalition of Pastors' Spouses. Several National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) member schools are also supporting Close the Gap efforts. The campaign is being led by a steering committee of leading physicians from across the country and will have a strong focus on community education.

"Heart disease causes more deaths in Americans of both sexes and all racial and ethnic groups than any other disease," said Close the Gap steering committee member Charles Noble, M.D., a Columbus, Ohio-based electrophysiologist and incoming Vice President of the Association of Black Cardiologists. "Many different medical conditions or lifestyle habits can affect one's chance of developing heart disease. Close the Gap seeks to help Americans understand risk factors and know what actions can be taken to lower their risk of developing heart disease."

Close the Gap will work to increase awareness of cardiovascular risk factors through community programs involving faith-based organizations, collegiate and professional athletic teams, and patient advocacy groups.

A key focus of the campaign will be to raise awareness of sudden cardiac arrest as a leading cause of death among young athletes. Toward this end, Close the Gap has established a close relationship with the Black Coaches and Administrators organization, a national nonprofit whose members are mentors and leaders in their communities. Statistics reveal that in the United States, a young competitive athlete dies from sudden cardiac arrest every three or four days. The average age of those who die is 17.5 years, ninety percent of them are male, and more than half are black.

"As coaches, we are on the front lines of the battle against sudden cardiac arrest in young athletes," said Floyd Keith, Executive Director of Black Coaches and Administrators. "We have the power to help save lives, and we're proud to join with Boston Scientific to spread the word about this largely unrecognized crisis and work to make a difference."

Close the Gap plans to conduct outreach events during 2008 at several NCAA basketball games, local public school districts and major women's conferences. For more information on the Close the Gap campaign and updates on outreach venues as they become available, please visit <http://www.heart-health-disparities.org/>.

Boston Scientific is a worldwide developer, manufacturer and marketer of medical devices whose products are used in a broad range of interventional medical specialties. For more information, please visit: <http://www.bostonscientific.com/>.

Statistics cited in this release are taken from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Heart Rhythm Society, the American College of Cardiology and the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements may be identified by words like "anticipate," "expect," "project," "believe," "plan," "estimate," "intend" and similar words. These forward- looking statements are based on our beliefs, assumptions and estimates using information available to us at the time and are not intended to be guarantees of future events or performance. These forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements regarding our financial performance, our growth strategy, our expense reduction initiatives, our capital needs and expenditures, potential acquisitions and divestitures, our debt repayment strategy, our operational strategy, and our market position. If our underlying assumptions turn out to be incorrect, or if certain risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results could vary materially from the expectations and projections expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. These factors, in some cases, have affected and in the future (together with other factors) could affect our ability to implement our business strategy and may cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the statements expressed in this press release. As a result, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any of our forward- looking statements.

Factors that may cause such differences include, among other things: future economic, competitive, reimbursement and regulatory conditions; new product introductions; demographic trends; intellectual property; litigation; financial market conditions; and, future business decisions made by us and our competitors. All of these factors are difficult or impossible to

predict accurately and many of them are beyond our control. For a further list and description of these and other important risks and uncertainties that may affect our future operations, see Part I, Item 1A- Risk Factors in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we may update in Part II, Item 1A - Risk Factors in Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q we have filed or will file thereafter. We disclaim any intention or obligation to publicly update or revise any forward- looking statements to reflect any change in our expectations or in events, conditions, or circumstances on which those expectations may be based, or that may affect the likelihood that actual results will differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. This cautionary statement is applicable to all forward-looking statements contained in this document.

CONTACT: Annette Ruzicka
651-582-6161
Media Relations
Boston Scientific Corporation

SOURCE: Boston Scientific Corporation

CONTACT: Annette Ruzicka, Media Relations of Boston Scientific Corporation, +1-651-582-6161

Web site: <http://www.bostonscientific.com/>
<http://www.heart-health-disparities.org/>

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