

“Time-Out” of Real-time Functions in ICDs and CRT-Ds

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In order to preserve the device battery, most Boston Scientific ICDs and CRT-Ds disable real-time functions when there has been no telemetry communication between the device and programmer for one hour after the initial interrogation. This article describes the situation and two simple options to re-establish the real-time functions of the device.

This article was first published as a *Product Update* on December 10, 2004.

ICD: Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator

CRT-D: Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Defibrillator

CRM PRODUCTS REFERENCED*

VENTAK PRIZM®, PRIZM HE, PRIZM AVT, PRIZM 2, VITALITY®, VITALITY DS, VITALITY EL, VITALITY AVT, VITALITY 2, CONTAK CD® 2, CONTAK RENEWAL®, RENEWAL 2, RENEWAL 3, RENEWAL 3 HE, RENEWAL 3 AVT, RENEWAL 4, RENEWAL 4 HE and RENEWAL 4 AVT

*Products referenced herein may not be approved in all geographies.

CRM CONTACT INFORMATION

Technical Services – U.S.
1.800.CARDIAC (227.3422)
Tech.Services@guidant.com

Technical Services – Europe
+32 2 416 7222
eurtechservice@guidant.com

LATITUDE Clinician Support
1.800.CARDIAC (227.3422)
latitude@guidant.com

Patient Services
1.866.484.3268 – U.S. and Canada
001.651.582.4000 – International

Real-time electrograms, markers and lead measurements rely on real-time communications between the pulse generator and programmer. When no telemetry communication between a pulse generator and programmer has occurred for one hour after the initial interrogation, the pulse generator stops transmitting real-time information to preserve its battery. This normal device operation is referred to as a “time out” of the real-time functions, which results in the disabling of real-time electrograms and markers.

When real-time electrograms and markers are disabled, the programmer screen will display “- -” marks in the heart rate icon and the real-time electrograms will be flat with no visible markers (Figure 1).

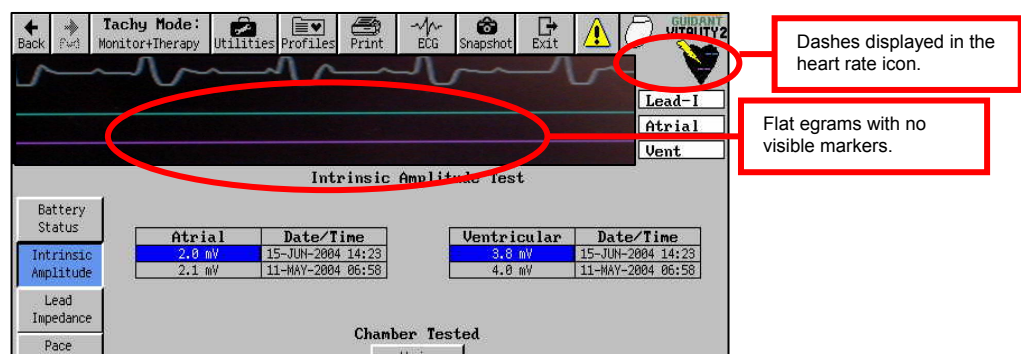


Figure 1. “Time Out of Real-time functions in a VITALITY 2 ICD.

Without real-time electrograms and markers active, diagnostic lead measurements cannot be performed. To restore all real-time functions in the ICD or CRT-D, perform either of the following actions:

- **Restart the patient session**
OR
- **Toggle any one of the intracardiac electrogram channels.** For example: from the Shock channel, select “Vent” and then toggle back to “Shock” again.