Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm Disease

What Is It?
A thoracic aortic aneurysm (TAA) is a bulge or ballooning in a part of your aorta that runs through your chest.1

Why Is It Dangerous?
Aneurysm rupture can lead to death. Rupture occurs when the bulge in your thoracic aorta weakens and the force of normal blood pressure breaks through the vessel wall causing heavy bleeding.2

Are You at Risk?
Risk factors for TAs are similar to those that contribute to clogging or hardening of the arteries, also known as atherosclerosis.3

Symptoms
Typically, aneurysms are discovered when diagnostic imaging, such as computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), is performed for other reasons. Most people feel no symptoms at all.1,2

If symptoms are present, they may include1,2:
• Chest or back pain
• Coughing, hoarseness
• Difficulty breathing
• Difficulty swallowing
• Coughing up blood

Treatment Options

Open Surgical Repair
A standard treatment for a TAA is open surgical repair. During this procedure, a long incision is made to access the section of the thoracic aorta where the aneurysm has formed. A synthetic graft, or fabric tube, is sewn into place to replace the damaged vessel.1

Endovascular Treatment
A less invasive alternative to open surgery is to implant a device, such as the TALENT™ Thoracic Stent Graft, to relieve pressure on the damaged vessel wall by causing blood flow to bypass the aneurysm.3

Endovascular stent grafting is a less invasive procedure because, unlike open surgery, the procedure is performed inside of your body using long, thin tubes (catheters) and x-rays.1

The TALENT™ Thoracic Stent Graft
10 years of experience with more than 20,000 patient implants worldwide

The TALENT™ Thoracic Stent Graft is only available with a prescription from your doctor. Endovascular treatment is not for everyone—only your doctor can determine if a TALENT™ Thoracic Stent Graft is right for you.

What You Can Do
Early detection is critical.1 People over 50 years of age should be encouraged to talk to a doctor.

For further information, please call Medtronic at 800.961.9055 and/or visit www.Medtronic.com.