



PRESS RELEASE

Ref: OHU01

June 2005

BP monitor's IP validation for obesity means one cuff fits all

Omron reports that its M7 automatic blood pressure monitor has now received clinical validation under the International Protocol published by the European Society of Hypertension for use with upper arm diameters up to 42cm, making it suitable for patients suffering from obesity. The M7 had previously received the nominal validation for arm diameters of 22-32cm, but this most recent approval means the M7 is the only device of its type able to accommodate patients with arm diameters from 22-42cm with a single, universal cuff.

Omron's M7 is designed to enable daily self-monitoring by users concerned about high blood pressure, giving them early warning of a dangerous condition which often goes unnoticed because there are no symptoms. A key feature of the M7 is its unique comfort cuff, designed to fit all upper arm sizes. Conventional cuff designs will only give accurate readings for upper arm diameters up to 32cm, so dedicated cuffs are needed for obese patients. By contrast, with this most recent validation, Omron's universal cuff provides a 'one size fits all' solution for optimum convenience and reliability. A single M7 could be used by a whole family, or by healthcare professionals for the whole spectrum of patients.

With the problem of obesity on the increase, and recognised as having the potential to overtake even smoking as the major killer in the western world, regular self monitoring of blood pressure can be key for sufferers, enabling them to take preventive action or to see the effect of any medical treatment they are receiving.





PRESS RELEASE

Omron's M7 blood pressure monitor was tested for suitability with obese patients by a validation team consisting of two observers trained in accurate BP measurement and a supervisor, as required by the International Protocol. Measurements were taken on 33 subjects selected according to the International Protocol recommendations, and compared with readings from a benchmark standard mercury sphygmomanometer. The tests showed that the M7 fulfilled the recommendations of the International Validation Protocol.

The M7's comfort cuff is not the device's only unique feature. The M7 also features Omron's 'Intellisense' technology, which uses fuzzy-logic control to ensure the cuff is automatically inflated to exactly the right pressure. By contrast, the over-inflation typical of conventional devices can be a source of some discomfort or even significant pain.

The M7 blood pressure monitor measures pressures from 0-299 mmHg and pulse rates from 40 to 180 beats/min. The device provides a digital LCD screen that displays the measured blood pressure and heart rate together with time and date, and up to 90 measurements with time and date can be stored in internal memory.

END

About Omron

Omron are the leading supplier of medical equipment for therapy and health monitoring. Since introducing the first Blood Pressure Monitor for home use in 1974, over 50 million have been used worldwide. Established in 1933, OMRON Corporation, headquartered in Kyoto, Japan has more than 25,000 employees in over 35 countries working to provide products and services to customers in a variety of fields including healthcare.

Continually developing and supplying innovative medical equipment, Omron's wide product range includes the latest clinically validated blood pressure monitors both for professional and home use, a range of respiratory products including the world's smallest, silent, portable nebuliser, a long with body fat monitors, pedometers and thermometers.





PRESS RELEASE

Looking beyond the technology, Omron's real commitment lies in building healthy lives. Our aim is to provide total healthcare management service, aimed at preventing and improving such increasingly common health problems as hypertension, respiratory problems, diabetes and obesity.

Omron provide a total healthcare management service that help people improve the quality of their life.

For further information please contact:

Mandy Smith

RPR (positive communications), 5 Chequer Lane, Redbourn, Herts, UK AL3 7NH

Tel No: +44 (0)1582 792346 / +44 (0)7721 471575

Fax No: +44 (0) 1582 794885 Email: mandy@rpr-positive.co.uk