

## The Importance of Outward Radial Pressure

Outward radial pressure, or “springiness”, applied by an EP catheter against endocardial tissue is an important aspect of catheter performance because it facilitates tissue contact.

## Test Objective and Method

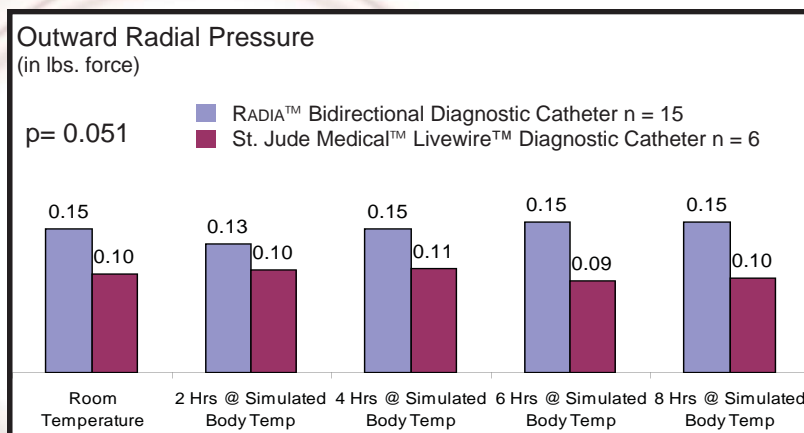
A bench test was created to compare the degree of outward radial pressure applied by the BARD® Electrophysiology RADIA™ Bidirectional Diagnostic Catheter and the St. Jude Medical™ Livewire™ Diagnostic Catheter.

- 1) Shafts were placed in a looped position to simulate catheter placement in the Right Atrium.
- 2) Force was applied against the outside of the catheter with a force gauge to measure the amount required to move the shaft.
- 3) This test was performed at room temperature to simulate shaft performance at initial insertion, and then at 2, 4, 6, and 8 hour intervals. The catheter shafts remained in a warm water bath between test cycles to simulate the effect of shaft softening that may occur during a procedure.



## Test Results\*

Over the course of the test, the RADIA™ Bidirectional Diagnostic Catheter consistently exhibited more outward radial pressure as compared to the Livewire™ Diagnostic Catheter. As shown in the following chart, the difference in pressure ranged from 25-63% over 8 hours; the RADIA™ Bidirectional Diagnostic Catheter with an average of 46% more outward radial pressure than the Livewire™ Diagnostic Catheter.



\* Data on file at Bard Electrophysiology