1,325 Patients are now enrolled in this trial, which is taking place in 80 centres across Europe and Australia. There are an estimated 14 million patients suffering from heart failure in Europe, with central SDB estimated to be present in up to 30-50% of heart failure patients. Central SDB is associated with increased mortality, cardiac hospital readmissions, and lower quality of life. Effective treatment of central SDB using PaceWave™ ASV improves cardiac function and may increase survival in HF patients. SERVE-HF is the first large-scale randomised trial assessing the benefits of PaceWave™ ASV therapy on heart failure patients and the cost/benefit ratio. The first patient was randomised in 2008 and the study is likely to complete in June 2015, with results in 2016. SERVE-HF could change how we manage SDB in heart failure patients. Results, expected in 2016, could have a big impact on the future management of heart failure patients.
References:

1. Data on heart failure in Europe is sketchy. One common estimate is ‘14 million Europeans’ (J Am Coll Cardiol, 2009; 53:1960-1964), which would be ~3.3% of the population of the EU27 over 14. A comparison of population-based heart failure prevalence in Framingham, Ma (NHLBI, 2006 Chart Book on Cardiovascular and Lung Diseases, Table 5-42) and in the Dutch city of Rotterdam (see European Heart Journal. 1999 Mar;20(6):447-55) which suggests roughly comparable rates of heart failure prevalence (~3.5%).


