

Epidural Filter

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

These INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE apply to the following Smiths Medical product:

Catalogue No: 100/386/010 Epidural Flat Filter with Rotating Collar - Luer Lock
Internal Ref: 100/386/010CZ
(Priming volume 0.8 ml; Max. pressure 792 kPa)

These instructions contain important information for safe use of the product. Read the entire contents of these Instructions For Use, including Warnings and Cautions, before using this product. Failure to properly follow warnings, cautions and instructions could result in death or serious injury to the patient and/or clinician.

NOTE: DISTRIBUTE THIS INSERT SHEET TO ALL PRODUCT LOCATIONS.

1. DESCRIPTION:

The epidural filter is comprised of a 0.2µm, hydrophilic membrane enclosed in a leak proof transparent casing with male and female Luer Lock connections.

2. INDICATIONS FOR USE:

An anesthesia conduction filter is a microporous filter used while administering to a patient injections of local anesthetics to minimize particulate (foreign material) contamination of the injected fluid.

3. PRECAUTIONS:

- 3.1 Follow standard infection control procedures as specified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USA) or local equivalent.
- 3.2 The epidural filter can be left in position for a period of up to 96 hours. If the filter is to be used for frequent bolus doses of solutions drawn from glass ampules, it is recommended that the additional precaution of using filter needles or straws is taken.
- 3.3 Do not use a syringe smaller than 10 ml for injecting fluids to avoid excessive pressure that may damage the filter.
- 3.4 Ensure that the interface between the filter and the injection system remains air free as any air bubbles trapped within the filter will create an air lock and prevent any further passage of liquid.
- 3.5 Overtightening the connection between the epidural catheter connector or epidural needle to the male rotating collar may cause rotating collar to dislodge from filter body.

4. WARNINGS:

- 4.1 **When disconnecting the filter from a tuohy borst style epidural catheter connector do not hold the patient end half of the epidural connector to avoid accidental disconnection of the epidural catheter from the epidural connector as this may cause disruption in treatment to the patient.**
- 4.2 **Meticulous attention to aseptic technique is essential to prevent infection in the epidural or subarachnoid space.**

5. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:

- 5.1 Prime the epidural filter with fluid prior to use.
- 5.2 Turn rotating collar clockwise to attach the primed filter (priming volume 0.8ml) to the epidural catheter connector and fully tighten connections to prevent leakage.
- 5.3 If the epidural catheter is being used for continuous epidural analgesia, the epidural flat filter may be secured by taping to the patients skin or gown.
- 5.4 After use, place sharps in a suitable sharps container. Dispose of contaminated product in a safe manner according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA and Federal/State/Local regulations (EPA, OSHA) and health care facility guidelines or local equivalent.

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