

## Pre-Filled Flushing Guidelines and Information

The pre-filled flush supply has been significantly impacted by the recall of the Cardinal Monoject pre-filled saline syringes and their inability to return to market at this time. This has been compounded by a shortage in saline vials in the pharmacy space.

Please be assured that Premier is working diligently to secure supply. During this time, BD, the market leader in this space, has ramped up manufacturing and is running 24/7 with as much capacity as possible.

We have also worked with our other contracted supplier Medefil (PP-NS-1268) to meet needs with supplemental supply and added an expedited supply contract with Nurse Assist (ES-NS-1556) for additional product. Even with these, the gap left in this market was large. This has created the need to create alternative strategies that will work within the needs of your facility. To assist you we have outlined some key items that may help you in your process.

- Infusion Nursing Society (INS) is the governing body that sets standards for nursing practice in this area. This [document](#) addresses the situation.
- Our pharmacy team has also created a document to assist in alternatives with the sterile water and saline vials.
- Clinical and supply staff work together to identify utilization of product by type/fill
- Understand the impact of substitute syringes and the guidelines for syringe pumps. (document to follow)
- Work with pharmacy to provide flushing alternatives with vials or pharmacy compounded syringes to supplement when supply does not meet need.
- Use of KVO saline when appropriate for patient
- Do NOT place bags of saline for drawing in patient rooms
- Nursing should educate staff on appropriate volumes to use for flushing according to INS Standards (typically 2x the volume of the device) and use appropriate amount
- Evaluate peripheral IVs that are not being utilized but require maintenance with flushing for potential removal
- Supply Chain should work directly with both distributor and supplier on appropriate allocation and fill rates and escalate increased needs as soon as possible
- Understand the impact of additional syringes to current levels of hypodermic allocation levels and escalate to both distributor and supplier as needed

We encourage caution in engaging with alternative suppliers that have not been vetted. Pre-filled saline and base hypodermic syringes are class II medical devices and require 510K via the FDA. We continue to utilize our Expedited Sourcing process to bring quality alternatives in areas of supply needs.

Please feel free to forward these manufacturers or suppliers to your RD or field team. With the current raw material, transportation and labor issues, even alternative products may be limited or in supply constraint.