

ON-Q[®] Catheters

F A Q S FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What type of catheter configurations are available?

There are 4 design options:

- **ON-Q Soaker™**: Contains a hollow fiber for even drug distribution with multiple holes along the infusion segment. Available in different infusion segment lengths.
- **ON-Q SilverSoaker™**: Has same characteristics as the Soaker catheter, but with an antimicrobial silver coating. See inside for FAQs specific to silver coating.
- **Epidural**: Standard epidural catheter.
- **Non-Soaker**: Specifically designed catheter for ON-Q pumps with bolus capability.



2. Where can the catheters be placed?

All ON-Q catheters are indicated for the delivery of medication (such as local anesthetics) to or around surgical wound sites for preoperative, perioperative and postoperative pain management. ON-Q Soaker, Non-Soaker and Epidural catheters are also indicated for perineural delivery. Catheter Placement Guides are available for a variety of surgical procedures.

3. Are there surgical procedures where ON-Q catheters cannot be used?

- ON-Q catheters are not indicated for epidural use unless specifically identified as epidural catheter on the product label. ON-Q epidural catheters require a standard epidural introducer needle (not provided) for placing the catheter.
- Avoid placing the catheter in joint spaces. Although there is no definitive established causal relationship, some literature has shown a possible association between intra-articular infusions and the subsequent development of chondrolysis.
- Avoid placing the catheter in the distal end of extremities where fluid may build up as this may lead to ischemic injury or necrosis.
- The ON-Q SilverSoaker is not intended for use in neonatal populations. The ON-Q SilverSoaker is not intended for placement in the intra-articular space.

4. What is the diameter of the catheter?

All catheters have an outer diameter of approximately 19 gauge.

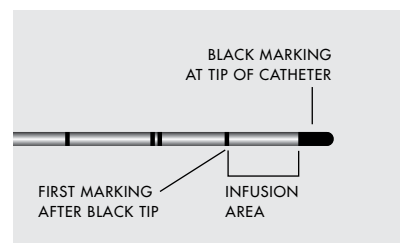
5. What are the sizes of the ON-Q Soaker catheters?

There are 5 Soaker catheters available,

designated by the length of the infusion segment:

- 1 inch (2.5 cm)
- 2.5 inch (6.5 cm)
- 5 inch (12.5 cm)
- 7.5 inch (19 cm)
- 10 inch (25 cm)

Drug infusion occurs between black tip and first marking after tip.



6. Are the catheters radiopaque?

Yes. All ON-Q catheters are radiopaque. However, when placed in tissue, the catheter is difficult to visualize with regular X-ray.

7. Who should remove the catheter?

Physician's choice. The surgeon, nurse, or patient may remove the catheter. Catheter removal instructions are included in the Patient Guidelines provided with the product.

8. Is there a greater risk of infection with a catheter in the wound?

There is no evidence to suggest that wound site catheters increase the risk of infection. An internal audit was conducted that compared reported cases of infection in patients using the ON-Q pump to data available from the CDC which surveyed the incidence of surgical site infections. When compared to this CDC data, the ON-Q system did not appear to increase the risk of surgical site infections.

Another report reviewed clinical trial data on patients receiving ON-Q wound site pain management and compared infection data to published literature for reports of Surgical Site Infections (SSI) and wound complications. SSI rates reported in the National Nosocomial Infections Surveillance (NNIS) System report, August 2004, were used as a reference for expected rates of SSIs. Patients receiving continuous wound site pain management had less than the expected infection rate for all procedures. Studies available upon request.

9. What measures can I take to prevent infection in patients?

- Insert the catheter 3-5 cm away from the wound site through correctly prepped skin.
- Cover the catheter site with an occlusive dressing keeping the catheter separate from surgical site.
- Protect catheter site from water.
- Perform routine assessment and monitoring of the catheter site.
- Remove the catheter as soon as the infusion is complete.
- Follow instructions for proper catheter removal.
- Do not refill the pump.
- The catheter should remain in place no longer than 5 days.

10. Are ON-Q catheters MRI compatible?

All ON-Q catheters are considered MR safe for patients undergoing examinations using MR systems operating at static magnetic field strengths of 3-Tesla or less. Refer to Technical Bulletin on MRI compatibility with ON-Q.

11. Where can I find more information on the ON-Q catheters?

For complete product information, always refer to the product literature that comes with the device.

12. Where can I find updates on the ON-Q catheters?

For technical bulletins and a list of supporting studies visit
www.iflo.com
www.AskYourSurgeon.com

1. What is the difference between the ON-Q SilverSoaker catheter and the original Soaker catheter?

The ON-Q SilverSoaker contains a layer of metallic silver nanoparticles on the inside and outside surface. This added layer of protection is one part of a multi-modal approach to preventing surgical site infections.

2. Will the ON-Q SilverSoaker Catheter prevent infections?

The impact of the antimicrobial agent on surgical site infection rates for colorectal procedures is currently being evaluated in a multi-site clinical study. The ON-Q SilverSoaker Catheters contain an antimicrobial agent, which may destroy or inhibit the growth of microorganisms on both the inner and outer surfaces of the catheter. It is not intended to be used as a treatment for existing infections.

3. Will the silver coating rub off the catheter when handled by the surgeon or technician outside the body?

Not typically. Although the silver coating is bonded tightly to the catheter, excessive handling or exposure to moisture could remove trace amounts of silver. The silver acts as the antimicrobial agent by releasing silver ions when placed in the body.

4. Will the catheter cause an allergic reaction in patients?

Silver allergies are extremely rare and silver is available in many foods and products. The ON-Q SilverSoaker should not be used on patients with known allergies to silver.

5. Why are the ON-Q SilverSoaker Catheters a different color than the non-coated catheters?

The silver coating causes the catheter to appear amber in color, similar to Betadine®. The silver particles are so small that they don't reflect light in the same way as metallic silver.

6. Are there other types of catheters on the market which utilize silver technology?

Yes. ARROWg+ard® Blue Central Venous Catheter (Arrow International)

Vantex Antimicrobial Central Venous Catheter (Edwards Lifesciences)

Note: At this time, ON-Q SilverSoaker is the only catheter utilizing silver technology for surgical site applications.

7. Is silver effective against MRSA (methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus)?

I-Flow has demonstrated antimicrobial effectiveness against MRSA. The ON-Q SilverSoaker and control (non-silver) catheters were inoculated with MRSA in vitro; after 48 hours the ON-Q SilverSoaker catheter reduced the MRSA inocula to nearly zero whereas the MRSA inocula continued to grow uninhibited in the control catheters.

8. What preparation of silver is on the catheter?

The coating is pure metallic silver. The silver metal is slowly oxidized into silver oxide. The silver oxide ionizes and releases the silver ions into solution. This gives a slow but constant release of silver ions. There is no silver sulfadiazine. Silver sulfadiazine, an older preparation of silver, was used for burns and had a higher risk of toxicity than current preparations.

9. Will priming the catheter affect the activation of silver?

No. Priming catheters is an important step, and does not affect the efficacy of the catheter. The catheter releases 0.6 microgram of silver per centimeter of catheter in the body per day. The lumen accounts for only 1/3 of the surface area and flushing takes about one minute; therefore, the silver release during flushing is negligible.

10. Will the catheter stain the skin?

No. The amount of silver on the catheter is much lower than the amount that would cause argyria or discoloration due to silver.

11. Do the silver ions flow through the catheter at the same rate as the local anesthetic medication?

The silver ions do not flow through the catheter; they are slowly released when introduced into the body.

12. How long will the silver ions last?

The silver ions will continue to release into the body for the duration of the ON-Q therapy.

13. What is the shelf life?

Approximately 2.5 years.

14. Is the ON-Q SilverSoaker more radiopaque than the non silver catheter?

No, it is the same.

ON-Q[®] Pain Relief System

Redefining Recovery™



**NOW LABELED FOR
ON-Q
ENHANCED INDICATIONS**

ON-Q IS INDICATED FOR:

- Significantly better pain relief than narcotics
- Significantly less need for narcotics

FOR COMPLETE PRODUCT INFORMATION, ALWAYS REFER TO THE PRODUCT LITERATURE THAT COMES WITH THE DEVICE



FOR MORE PRODUCT RELATED INFORMATION CALL
800.448.3569 or **949.206.2700**

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