

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)

This bulletin is provided in response to the concerns expressed by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and others regarding the risks associated with free flow capabilities with infusion pumps.

The concerns regarding infusion pumps with the potential for free-flow are related to the use and application of electronic infusion pumps. The ON-Q infusion system contains single-use, disposable pumps that do not allow the risk of free flow. They are distinguishable from electronic pumps in that they incorporate a fixed, non-adjustable, orifice that controls the flow rate, thereby not allowing a free flow condition.

Other features of the ON-Q system include:

- No programming errors
- Closed system
- Intended use is local anesthetics versus narcotics
- Pump is unique to the application
- No injection ports on the pump tubing for inadvertent injection into the system
- System is designed to be used under sterile technique
- Extremely reliable and simple to use

Please contact the Clinical Services Department at 800-444-2728 or 949-206-2700 if you have any questions regarding this information.

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