



Value Life

Vygon launches SurfCath, a novel catheter for a smoother administration of surfactant in premature babies with Respiratory Distress Syndrome

SurfCath eliminates need for Magill forceps during Less Invasive Surfactant Administration (LISA) method in preterm babies

Ecouen, France, September 17, 2019 – Vygon Group, a specialist single-use medical devices group, today introduces SurfCath™, a unique catheter to be used for administering surfactant with the LISA method for preterm babies with Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS), a leading cause of death in premature infants.

The new 20-centimetre long, transparent, semi-rigid SurfCath catheter features a curved distal tip and allows improved manoeuvrability during the placement of the medical device, while eliminating the need for the commonly used Magill forceps. This shall ensure smoother application and lower risk of injuries in premature babies.

RDS is a breathing disorder resulting from surfactant deficiency and underdeveloped lungs, primarily occurring in preterm babies. In Europe, [RDS is reported](#) in about 90 per cent of babies born at 24 weeks and 80 per cent of babies born at 28 weeks*. A significant part of RDS treatment is surfactant administration. The current preferred method for surfactant administration is the LISA method, using a thin catheter inserted through the vocal cords in order to avoid unnecessary intubation. This can be performed in a number of ways, which commonly require the use of Magill forceps, a bulky device that is not easy to use and could lead to injuries in the mucosa. The special design of the new SurfCath device now enables healthcare professionals to insert it without the need for the forceps.

“Premature neonates are at increased risk of a number of conditions, including Respiratory Distress Syndrome, a serious danger in the first few weeks of their lives. At Vygon we develop bespoke single-use medical devices for patients, including the tiniest, and strive to decrease the risks of injuries or discomfort during procedures while using our devices. We are proud of our latest innovation, SurfCath, co-invented with Dr. Kribs from the University Hospital of Cologne (Uniklinik Köln, Germany). This catheter could considerably improve the preemies care, right after birth,” said François Rochiccioli, executive vice president, Vygon.

Vygon’s SurfCath will be available from December 2019 in a 6Fr size, suitable for all neonates. The catheter will be available first in Europe and then in the Americas and in the Asia-Pacific region according to the local registration timelines.

Further details about the new single-use device can be found here: https://www.vygon.com/catalog/surfactant-administration_1488_005590106

*Source: David G. Sweet et al., European Consensus Guidelines on the Management of Respiratory Distress Syndrome – 2019 Update
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30974433>

About Vygon Group

Vygon designs, manufactures and markets high-tech single-use medical devices for healthcare professionals in hospital and for private and independent practitioners. Vygon is a world leader within this industry, offering a wide range of products in a number of clinical specialties. Organized in five business units (Intensive Care – Neonatology, Enteral & Obstetrics – Intravascular Therapies – Cardiovascular & Surgery – Anesthesia & Emergency), Vygon combines local and international in-depth expertise and know-how in each individual field. With expertise right along the value chain, from product design to the delivery of training for medical personnel, Vygon provides health care professionals with effective and innovative products tailored to their needs and those of their patients, for optimum use and safety. The company distributes over 205 million products a year in more than 120 countries through its network of 26 subsidiaries and 331 distributors. Vygon products display the CE and/or FDA mark and are manufactured in the group's eight factories in Europe, the USA and Colombia. A family company founded in 1962, Vygon is based in Ecoen, in France's Greater Paris region. It is a mid-sized business employing 2,350 staff worldwide. The turnover in 2018 was €323 million (\$365M), with 81% of this derived from Vygon's international business.

www.vygon.com

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