

## Cleaning the Inner Lumen of ACUITY™ and EASYTRAK® Leads

### SUMMARY

To ensure LV lead integrity during an implant procedure, it is important that care be taken when cleaning the lead lumen. This article reminds users of the steps that can be taken to minimize clotting of blood within open lumen leads and explains how to clean the inner lumen of ACUITY™ and EASYTRAK® lead families.

### Coronary Venous Leads

The ACUITY™ and EASYTRAK® families of coronary venous leads have an open lumen to allow the lead to be advanced over a guide wire until the distal electrode(s) are at the desired location within the selected coronary vein. Due to the lead's open lumen design, blood can flow through the lumen. A hemostasis valve is used to restrict blood loss and help prevent blood from clotting within the lumen. The hemostasis valve does this by creating a tight seal at the terminal end of the lead to seal off air, while providing a side port to enable lead flushing without inhibiting movement of the lead over the guide wire used to position the lead.

### Flushing the Inner Lead Lumen

To prevent blood from clotting within the open lumen of the lead during an implant procedure, it is important to carefully flush the lumen with heparinized saline before and during use. If the lead is removed from the patient during the procedure, the lead should be flushed prior to re-insertion as exposure to air can cause blood remaining in the lumen to clot.

If resistance is met while flushing the lead, or if difficulty is experienced while advancing the lead over the guide wire, a blood clot may be present. No further flushing should be performed.

**NOTE:** Applying tools (e.g., hemostasis valve) at the electrode end of the lead to assist in flushing could result in lead damage.

### When a Clot is Suspected

When clotting is suspected, do not flush the lead. Flushing in the presence of a clot could result in damage to the lead. The following steps describe how to remove a suspected clot from the inner lead lumen:

1. Remove the lead from the body. There is no need to remove the guiding catheter or guide wire from the body.
2. Soak the lead in a basin of heparinized saline.
3. Insert the proximal (non-floppy) end of a guide wire into the lead (Figures 1 and 2).

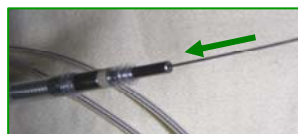


Figure 1. Guide wire insertion into terminal end of lead.



Figure 2. Guide wire insertion into electrode end of lead.

- For ACUITY Spiral, ACUITY Steerable, and EASYTRAK 3 leads—the guide wire can be inserted into either the terminal or distal (electrode) end of the lead.
  - For EASYTRAK and EASYTRAK 2 leads—the guide wire should be inserted into the distal (electrode) end of the lead.
4. Advance the guide wire to clear clotting.
    - If successful in clearing the clot, flush the lead prior to re-insertion.
    - If unsuccessful in clearing the clot, or if resistance is encountered while advancing the guide wire, use a new lead and return<sup>1</sup> the original lead to Boston Scientific.

### CRM PRODUCTS REFERENCED

The following are trademarks of Cardiac Pacemakers, Inc., a Boston Scientific company: ACUITY families and EASYTRAK families.

Products referenced herein may not be approved in all geographies. For comprehensive information on device operation, reference the appropriate product labeling.

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<sup>1</sup>The Returned Products Kit (Model 6499) can be ordered in the United States at no charge online at <http://www.bostonscientific.com/ppr> (select the link Returning Products), and can be ordered internationally through the local Boston Scientific affiliate offices. The kit complies with regulations associated with shipment of biologically hazardous materials and ensures that the product is physically protected during shipment.