

Technology & Clinical Bulletin

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Advances in
pulmonary management of
the critically ill infant



New Suctioning Procedure Recommendation

Our new recommendation is based on feedback from customers that were experiencing various alarms while suctioning with the Life Pulse running (not in Standby mode). Loss of PIP, High PIP, and in some cases Ventilator Fault 10 alarms were reported.

Issues associated with these alarms and their troubleshooting can be magnified when patients are receiving iNO on the Life Pulse. Measured iNO concentrations can overshoot and in extreme cases Delivery Failure alarms can result. Ikaria issued a Technical Bulletin (CL-TB-0041) on this topic March 2010.

As a result of customer feedback and the testing done by Bunnell and Ikaria, we have decided the simplest and the safest recommendation is to place the Life Pulse into the Standby mode prior to suctioning.

1. Make appropriate preparations to suction.
2. Place the Life Pulse into the Standby mode and support the patient on the conventional ventilator.
3. Suction the patient according to your normal suctioning procedure.
4. When suctioning is completed press the Enter button to restart the Life Pulse.
5. Return the conventional ventilator to pre-suctioning support settings.
6. Make sure the monitored pressures are stable and the Ready light is on before leaving the patient's bedside.

If you have any questions or concerns about this recommendation, please contact your Clinical Specialist or Bunnell's Clinical Support staff at 800.800.4358.