



What is the purpose of the ASV?

B Braun had a recall in 2011 due to pump clamp failure, resolved with replacing plastic clip to metal, kept ASV in product line as 3rd level of protection against free flow

What is the benefit of ASV?

- Vendor Indicates:
- Prevent free flow of fluid during tubing manipulation
 - Prevents accumulated Air in line (AIL) alarms due to microbubbles

What is the clinical Practice impact?

- Need to prime tubing by pump with ASV
- Need to remember to remove ASV when patient going to OR

Which other hospital in Canada use the ASV?

We benchmarked practice questions with 8 other hospitals, 6 used B Braun Infusomat, 2/6 did not use the ASV, zero % had standard use of the ASV and no pattern to patient population/clinical area was identified.

Why can't we get some of the ASVs off?

- ? over tightened
- Does length of time of tubing use impact ability to remove?

Vendor does not have the certification to receive samples of tubing back from safety events and sometimes tubing was not saved/available to assess

How do we resolve situation when we need the ASV off?

- Vendor suggests:
- "cracking" method with using forceps to crack and twist off ASV.
 - Use higher pressure with pressure bags = has resulted in tubing bursting apart at connection sites (e.g. stopcocks, IV extension sets) exposing team and patient to blood, IV fluids or meds

What are the safety risks to not using the ASV?

None identified but some nurses report decreased AIL alarms with use of the ASV
AIL alarms stop the infusions and depending on medication infusing, can result in patient deterioration

During the field correction notice, multiple tips were reinforced to reduce AIL alarms, the improvement in the quality of tubing was the final solution

Industry standard to prevent free flow into patient is the pump clamp and roller clamp
No evidence was found to support claim it prevents microbubble formation above level of the pump
Dose Trac data reflects large single bubble AIL alarms and not accumulated AIL alarms

Recommendation – Discontinue the use of the ASV

- Risks to patient care exist with the use of the ASV, no evidence was found to support it decreases accumulation of microbubbles and thus decreasing AIL alarms.
- Dose Trac data for sites who report discontinuing the use of the ASV did not see an increase in accumulated AIL alarms.