Recommendation to Retract Repositioning Sheath on Impella® Catheter Pre-Insertion

What’s New?
Abiomed recommends sliding the repositioning sheath towards the red pump handle, as far back as possible, prior to inserting the Impella Catheter.
Do not insert the repositioning sheath into the peel-away sheath.
Abiomed does not recommend removing the guidewire from the Impella catheter if the repositioning sheath is inserted into the peel-away sheath.

Recommendation
During Impella CP® Catheter insertion, Abiomed has identified that in some instances it is possible to unintentionally insert the repositioning sheath into the peel-away sheath. In this scenario, clinicians may experience higher forces or fractured guidewires when removing the guidewire from the Impella CP Catheter.

Abiomed has determined that clinicians may be able to avoid this by sliding the repositioning sheath towards the red pump handle prior to inserting the Impella device.

Summary
The risks of increased guidewire removal forces and broken guidewires increase while the repositioning sheath is inserted into the peel-away sheath during Impella catheter insertion. Abiomed strongly recommends clinicians slide the repositioning sheath towards the red pump handle prior to inserting the device to avoid these additional risks.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this recommendation further, please contact your local Abiomed team or the Abiomed training team.

*This bulletin is intended for dissemination of technical information only.