Purge Cassettes Now Shipping without Y-connector

What’s New
Abiomed has improved ease of use and simplified set-up with the removal of the Y-connector (see image below) currently provided with the purge cassettes, from certain pump sets where this component is no longer needed. Removal of the Y-connector eliminates the step of discarding the component during set-up and Case Start.

Starting in June, only the Impella CP® with SmartAssist® and Impella 5.5® with SmartAssist® will be shipped without the Y-connector provided.

Purge cassettes that are bought separately from the Impella pump sets will still have the Y-connector included. The Y-connector will be discarded for all pumps except for the Impella 2.5 and Impella CP catheters after they have been transferred to standard configuration.

The Y-connector will no longer be included in packaging for the following pumps in the United States:
- Impella CP with SmartAssist
- Impella 5.5 with SmartAssist

Purge Cassette packaging has been updated to identify the new purge cassettes in the pump sets. Purge cassettes with green labels indicate that the Y-connector has been removed.

Background
The Impella 2.5® and Impella CP® monitor placement using an open pressure port and fluidic sensor lumen. During Case Start, the Y-connector is used to connect a single dextrose bag to both the purge and pressure lumens on the red pump handle.

The Impella CP with SmartAssist and Impella 5.5 with SmartAssist use different sensor technologies, that do not require a red fluid lumen or the Y-connector.

Summary
The Y-connector will no longer be included in Impella CP with SmartAssist and Impella 5.5 with SmartAssist pumps being shipped to sites in the US. During this transition, some pump sets in hospital inventory may still have purge cassettes with Y-connectors. If you have any questions or comments, please contact your local Abiomed team or the Clinical Support Center.

To learn more about the Impella platform of heart pumps, including important risk and safety information associated with the use of the devices, please visit: www.abiomed.com/important-safety-information

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