

Midstream Occlusions

Why it happens, what to do, how to minimize it



WHAT IS IT?

A midstream occlusion is an obstruction to the infusion tubing's lumen within the pumping segment.

WHY DOES IT OCCUR?

If the pump segment tubing is held under fixed compression for prolonged times, on occasion it will fuse closed. The effect is directly related to the amount of time the tubing spends in a compressed state.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The Medley™ System is designed to detect midstream occlusions. When a midstream occlusion is detected the Medley™ System will alarm and a message will be displayed. In most cases the lumen may be re-opened by physically massaging the tubing.

MIDSTREAM OCCLUSIONS ARE MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR:

- ◆ When primed tubing is loaded into the pump hours before the start of infusion
- ◆ When tubing is left in the pump for hours after the end of infusion
- ◆ When utilizing Multi dose or Delay Option modes with significant delay periods

SUGGESTIONS FOR PREVENTION:

- ◆ Load tubing into the pump shortly before the start of infusion
- ◆ If the tubing has been closed in the pump for many hours it can be checked for possible occlusion prior to starting an infusion:
 - First, close the roller clamp
 - Open the pump's door
 - Remove and inspect the tubing, massaging it to open the lumen if necessary
 - Re-load the tubing into the pump and close the door
 - Open the roller clamp and begin the infusion

For further information contact:

Customer Advocacy (800) 854-7812 Ext. 7812

e-mail: customerfeedback@alarismed.com