

Filters

PURPOSE

To prevent passage of undesirable substances into the circulatory system or cerebrospinal fluid.

POLICY

1. Use of all filters should adhere to manufacturers' directions for use and filtration requirements of the therapy.
2. Bacteria- and particulate-retentive and air-eliminating membrane filter changes should coincide with administration set changes.
3. For non-lipid containing solutions that require filtration, a 0.2 micron filter containing a membrane that is particulate-retentive and air-eliminating shall be used.
4. For lipid infusions or total nutrient admixtures that require filtration, a 1.2 micron filter containing a membrane that is particulate-retentive and air-eliminating shall be used.
5. For intraspinal infusions, a 0.2micron filter that is surfactant-free, particulate-retentive, and air-eliminating shall be used.
6. Blood and blood component filters appropriate to therapy shall be used to reduce particulate matter, microaggregates, or leukocytes in infusions of blood or blood components. Filters should be changed every 4 hours or coincide with blood administration set changes.
7. A blunted filter needle or filter straw shall be used when drawing medications from glass ampules.
8. When an electronic infusion device is used, consideration should be given to the pounds per square inch (psi) rating of the filter.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Director of Pharmacy and the Clinical Specialist have responsibility for approval of, compliance with, and revisions to this policy.

MODIFICATION/REVISION

This policy is subject to modification or revision in part or its entirety to reflect changes in conditions subsequent to the effective date of this policy.

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REFERENCES

1. Infusion Nursing Standards of Practice – Revised 2016; Journal of Infusion Nursing, Supplement to January/February 2016, Volume 39, Number 1S.
2. Infusion Nursing: An Evidence-Based Approach, Third Edition edited by Mary Alexander, Ann Corrigan, Lisa Gorski, Judy Hankins, and Roxanne Perucca.
3. INS (Infusion Nurses Society) Policies and Procedures for Infusion Nursing, 3rd Edition.