CLINICAL REPORT

DISPERSIVE ELECTRODE WEIGHT CLASSIFICATIONS

According to AORN's "Recommended Practices for Electrosurgery," dispersive electrodes should be an appropriate size for the patient (eg, neonate, infant, pediatric adult) and should not be altered (eg, cut or folded). Using a large dispersive electrode prevents concentration of current and minimizes the potential for electrosurgical injuries.¹

For ease of use and consistency, CONMED[®] electrosurgery has defined four weight classifications for dispersive electrodes, and uses corresponding graphic images on the electrode package. These weight classifications are < 4.4 lbs (< 2 kg); < 25 lbs (< 11.3 kg); < 80 lbs (< 36.3 kg), and > 80 lbs (> 36.3 kg). They are represented by the following graphics:



In each graphic, the shaded image represents the appropriate weight classification

SureFit[™] dual dispersive electrodes are designed to address the market need for a "one-size-fits-all" dispersive electrode. The SureFit dispersive electrodes can be used on patients weighing 4.4 pounds and above, providing the pad does not overlap itself and the pad is not altered.

CONMED offers an indemnification agreement that holds surgical staff members and associated surgeons harmless for electrosurgical burn injuries that occur under the dispersive electrode when a CONMED ARM-equipped electrosurgical generator or Valleylab REM-equipped electrosurgical generator, CONMED dual-plate return electrodes, and a CONMED reusable cable (where applicable) are exclusively used. This document ensures CONMED's commitment to the use of contact quality monitoring equipped generators and dual-plate dispersive electrodes.

¹ Recommended practices for electrosurgery. AORN J. 2004;79:432,434,437-438,440,442,445-446,448,450,453-456,458

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