

REF

PCS1415

SurgiVet™

# Pericardiocentesis Needle and Catheter

www.surgivet.com

**For Veterinary Use Only**

STERILE EO

Sterilized using ethylene oxide



Latex Free



Do not reuse. Single patient, single application use.

Rx  
ONLY

For use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

## Description

The Pericardiocentesis Needle and Catheter consist of an 8.2Fr 15cm (6") catheter with a 14ga, 18cm (7") needle. The catheter is made from fluorinated ethylene propylene copolymer.

## Function

The Pericardiocentesis Needle and Catheter is intended to be used for short term drainage of fluid from the pericardial sac. The catheter and needle are intended to be introduced together as one unit using a direct puncture technique.

## Instructions for Use

1. Inspect packaging for sterility. Remove product from package and visually inspect for any damage.

### WARNING! Discard if product or packaging is damaged.

2. Obtain peripheral blood, check Packed Cell Volume (PCV) and whole blood clotting time.
3. Pre-medicate with an analgesic. Some patients may also require sedation. Place patient in left lateral recumbency. Attach an ECG monitor.
4. Clip and surgically prepare area of right cardiac apex, (ie: 5th to 6th intercostal space) just below costochondral junctions. Double check position by ultrasound examination if required.
5. Infiltrate local anesthesia into site of puncture and deep to the pleural membrane.
6. Introduce needle and catheter as a unit into the intercostal muscle at site of local anesthesia. Attach a 20ml sterile syringe to the needle. Insert needle and catheter into pleural cavity.
7. Redirect needle and catheter so that it is perpendicular to the pericardium – this usually means directing towards the center of the heart. Advance needle and catheter until pericardium is felt to scratch on the end of the needle.
8. Continue to advance needle and catheter, maintaining small vacuum on 20ml sterile syringe, until pericardial effusion (usually a bloody effusion) is withdrawn. If needle touches the heart it may result in ectopic beats or a change in the ST segment.
9. Holding catheter in this position, remove the needle, leaving the catheter positioned in pericardium.
10. Attach 50ml sterile syringe and 3-way tap to catheter and withdraw pericardial effusion. If this is a bloody effusion, and you are not certain it is pericardial (versus cardiac blood), check PCV and clotting time of the effusion. PCV is usually lower in pericardial versus cardiac blood. Pericardial effusion does not clot.
11. Continue to gently withdraw all pericardial effusion, remove catheter, and suture skin.

**WARNING! Failure to properly immobilize patient during the procedure may result in serious injury and/or death.**

**WARNING! The catheter is made of a thin wall material and can kink, so it is not intended for long term placement.**

**WARNING! Follow local governing ordinances regarding disposal of sharps and biohazardous wastes.**

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