Connecting Patients to Safety™
A big change for a small connector.

Why is change needed?

What is changing?
SMITHS MEDICAL IS YOUR PARTNER.

As more details are announced by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the momentum builds industry-wide, Smiths Medical is here to keep you informed.
Big changes are coming. Here is what you need to know.

• In 2014, the Joint Commission released *Sentinel Event Alert 53: Managing Risk During Transition to ISO Tubing Connector Standards.*

• The ISO 80369-6 neuraxial connector standard is planned for publication this spring. The goal is to reduce the incidence of medical device misconnections – and improve patient safety – by creating unique non-Luer connectors for neuraxial procedures.

• The neuraxial non-Luer connectors will be branded by all major manufacturers as NRFit™ connectors.

HELP REDUCE A SIGNIFICANT RISK FOR YOUR PATIENTS.

OVER 200 MISCONNECTIONS HAVE BEEN REPORTED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO EPIDURAL, ENTERAL AND BLOOD PRESSURE CONNECTORS, ALL MISCONNECTED TO IV LINES, SOME OF WHICH RESULTED IN DEATH.

EDUCATING THE ENTIRE TEAM

CLINICIANS
Connected to care

RISK MANAGEMENT
Connected to understanding

ADMINISTRATORS
Connected to compliance

MEDICINE
OXYGEN
FLUIDS
Start planning today. Smiths Medical is here to help.

As your hospital prepares to improve patient safety by switching to the NRFit™ neuraxial non-Luer connector, we’ll help make the transition easier by providing support, guidance and product expertise.

PREPARE FOR THE TRANSITION TODAY.

THE NEW ISO 80369-6 CONNECTOR LOOKS LIKE A LUER CONNECTOR, BUT IS ABOUT 20% SMALLER AND HAS A UNIQUE DESIGN THAT REDUCES THE RISK OF CROSS CONNECTION WITH OTHER CONNECTORS DEVELOPED UNDER THE SAME SERIES OF STANDARDS, ESPECIALLY WITH LUER CONNECTORS. THERE IS ONE VISIBLE DIFFERENCE: SLIP MALES WILL HAVE A COLLAR SURROUNDING THE CONNECTOR.
pread the message.
Your patients are counting on you.

Before your facility adopts the new standard, it is important that all employees who will be involved become educated on the new 80369 international standards for proper and safe use of non-Luer connectors.

Share the information with your entire team, and be sure everyone understands the importance of this change for patient safety.

HELP REDUCE MEDICAL DEVICE MISCONNECTIONS.

"WE ARE AWARE OF AT LEAST THREE INSTANCES AT OUR INSTITUTION INVOLVING EPIDURAL-TO-IV MISCONNECTIONS. THE NEW ISO 80369-6 SMALL-BORE NEURAXIAL CONNECTOR PROPOSED BY THE ISO COMMITTEE WOULD HAVE PREVENTED TWO OF THE OCCURRENCES. ... THESE CASES OF MISCONNECTION, IN OUR OPINION, ARE ONE TOO MANY.

Gonzalez Fiol A, MD, Tilak V, MD.
TO FURTHER REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF THESE MISCONNECTIONS, THE FDA IS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STANDARDS FOR NON-INTERCHANGEABLE CONNECTORS FOR SMALL-BORE MEDICAL CONNECTORS. ... UNTIL STANDARDS ARE COMPLETED AND MANUFACTURERS DESIGN AND PRODUCE PRODUCTS THAT CAN’T BE MISCONNECTED, ALL INTERESTED PARTIES MUST CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO KEEP THESE DANGEROUS MISCONNECTIONS FROM HAPPENING.

The FDA

Be aware. Be prepared. Adopt the change. Contact your Smiths Medical representative today.