

Technology Evaluation of Potential Alternative to Dilation & Curettage (D&C)-Dilation & Evacuation (D&E) Canisters

Healthcare systems across the nation and the world are experiencing supply chain disruptions and product shortages due to the ongoing influence of COVID-19. A HealthTrust Member requested the Physician Advisor Network provide insight in on whether the Tis-U-Trap could be used as an alternative for Dilation and Curettage (D&C)-Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) canisters and tubing.

Overview

Tis-U-Trap is a single-use device for use with external suction to retrieve and collect endometrial tissue. Included in the sterile pack are a curette, collection chamber, label, double-sealing cap, funnel and zip bag. Curette sizes include: flexible 3-7mm, semi-rigid 3-7mm, rigid 8-12 mm, and stainless steel 2-3 mm. The primary indications for use of this device include uterine cancer screening and periodic endometrial monitoring of patients with higher risk factors for cancer. A vacuum source capable of producing 25-28 inches of Hg (57-70 cm) of negative pressure is required for effective operation of the Tis-U-Trap.¹ While this device can potentially reach 70 cmHg, it cannot sustain the negative pressure in the green zone range necessary to effectively perform D&C/D&E procedures.²

Physician Advisor Insight

An Obstetrics & Gynecology Physician specialist from our HealthTrust Physician Advisor Network offered the following insight with regard to the acceptability of this device as an alternate to current D&C/D&E suction devices:²

- These sets (the cannula curette and collection chamber) are too small and not intended for management of pregnancy complications. They are intended for endometrial sampling.
- The method of creating suction for this small tubing would never reach the minimum required of 70 cmHg for management of miscarriages.
- It is also not intended to be used for gestational trophoblastic disease. This is an emergency problem with the placenta and again, the size would not accommodate the procedure needed.

Additional Resources:

HealthTrust Clinical Services created a resource for D&C/D&E conservation. You can request a copy of this document by contacting your HealthTrust Account Manager or e-mail clinical.services@healthtrustpg.com.

References

1. Tis-U-Trap Instructions for Use. Available at: <https://www.coopersurgical.com/detail/tis-u-trap-uterine-suction-curette-set/>
2. Yancy JD. Dilation and curettage with suction. *Medscape:Drugs & Diseases>Clinical Procedures*. 2021. <https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1848296-overview>
3. 2022 Physician Advisor Network: Obstetrics & Gynecology Physician Expert Inquiry. Collected April 14, 2022.

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