ivWatch Monitoring Device Increases Safety of IV Fluid and Anesthesia Delivery During Surgery

Continuous peripheral IV monitoring by the ivWatch Model 400 reduces the risk of harm for patients undergoing surgical procedures.

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The millions of patients who undergo surgery every year have their anesthesia, medications and fluids administered through intravenous therapy. But with a more than 20% failure rate due to infiltrations, there are risks associated with IV therapy.¹

In the OR, the risk of complications caused by these infiltrations can increase with the length of surgery. The visibility of IV sites may also be limited because of the complex physical requirements of the procedure where patients' arms are tucked or draped.

Patients in surgery are likely to be attached to continuous monitoring systems that alert the OR staff to changes in their vital signs, and enable quick action to correct problems. But until recently, there has been no similar technology to protect the patient at the earliest signs of IV infiltration.

The ivWatch Model 400 is just such a continuous IV monitoring device, using light to detect infiltration or extravasation before the signs may be visible, and notifying the medical staff to the signs of IV failure caused by leakage to help minimize patient harm.

Every infiltration results in a medication dosing and drug delivery error. This is particularly concerning where anesthesia agents are involved, because an infiltration can significantly reduce the dosage, allowing the patient to regain consciousness during surgery. Those errors can injure patients, prolong hospital stays, increase health care expenses, or create significant legal risk and reputation damage for healthcare providers.

The Model 400 has demonstrated a low false positive rate and has the ability to detect infiltration events in as little as 3ccs of fluid.²

Early detection through continuous monitoring technology is key to reducing severe adverse events and harm caused to patients. ivWatch is the leader in developing the technology to support the safety and reduction of patient harm from infiltration and extravasation events in the operating room.

Development of the Model 400 device continues ivWatch's commitment to the ongoing improvement of patient safety and the elimination of harm due to infiltrations. Our ability to extend this improvement to particularly vulnerable patients like those undergoing surgery inspires and guides us as we move forward in our mission.

² Internal Document: DR-1001024: Device Validation for Infiltrated Tissues