Recently, the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology (SOAP) published “Interim considerations for Obstetric Care related to COVID-19”, read the full announcement here. While there are several valid recommendations, including protecting and disinfecting equipment while limiting personnel exposure, we wanted to respond to reassure our Pro-Nox™ users and their patients during this unprecedented time.

The Pro-Nox™ Nitrous Oxide Delivery System, including all existing models, was developed to safely deliver a fixed 50/50 ratio of N₂O and O₂ through a demand valve to help reduce patient pain and anxiety during procedures, including obstetrics. Labor and delivery facilities have experienced a reduction in one-on-one nursing, a delay or avoidance of epidurals, and an increase in patient satisfaction and comfort.

Our standard Pro-Nox Circuit includes a single-patient use mask that is attached to a Y connector with a one-way demand valve and two tubes. The white tube secures directly into the Pro-Nox Mixer unit (aka “head”) with an HCH (hygroscopic condensing humidifier) bacterial/viral filter to help protect the patient and the device from cross-contamination. Patient exhalation is directed by the internal demand valve to only go through the pink tube which is attached to a scavenging system. This unique valve also prevents expelled air from going back to the machine.

During this time of heightened caution, CAREstream America recommends adding a Pharma Systems bacterial and viral HCH filter between the patient mask and Y connector. See Figure 1 below for an example. We believe this double filter approach provides the highest level of protection available and adds:

1. an extra level of defense against cross-contamination between the Pro-Nox and the patient, and vice-versa
2. a layer of protection for the scavenger system against exhaled gases

These specific filters have been independently tested and proven to be highly effective in providing trusted protection against bacterial and viral cross contamination. The viral test efficiency for these filters range from >99.9% to >99.99%. The testing occurs at the accredited Nelson Labs within the USA, who are global leaders in laboratory testing and advisement. Read more about Pharma Systems testing by clicking here.

Our goal is to ensure the greatest of safety measures available to you. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us by calling 855-892-3872 or emailing info@carestreamamerica.com.

If a link is no longer working, please reach out to us and we can share information directly with you.

Best regards,

CAREstream America