



A novel device for preventing intravenous catheter dislodgement and associated patient injuries

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Abstract

The most frequent invasive procedure in European healthcare is not safe. Around 80% of in-hospital patients receive intravenous (IV) therapy through a catheter and an average 10.1% of these are accidentally dislodged during treatment,

billions in unnecessary healthcare spending globally. The most affected patient groups are children and the elderly with a reported accident rate as high as 36%. This results in, e.g., patient injury, wasted medication, increased plastic waste and increased workload for healthcare staff. The level of severity associated with an incident depends on catheter type, i.e. peripheral venous catheters, central venous catheters, peripherally inserted central catheter and midline catheter,

found for central venous catheters. An innovative safety device to address this problem is currently under development. The device is a two-part safety connector that is to be placed on the

pulled, the two parts act as a weak link and separate, thus preventing dislodgement, patient injury and damage to medical equipment. A double valve system prevents spillage of blood and medication. The constitution of the device allows for rapid reinstatement of IV therapy after an accident and the protection of the catheter and associated consumables, which otherwise would be thrown away after an accident, heavily decreases the amount of plastic being wasted.

Biography:

Rebecca has a PhD in Engineering Science, a MSc in Medical Sciences and a MSc in Materials Engineering from Uppsala University, Sweden. Her scientific papers have been published



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Separation Science and Technology/ Vol 55, 2020- Issue 7
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