

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

TRIM: D19-26010

Dr Leanne Berkahn
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Dear Dr Berkahn

ISO 80369-6:2016 neural connector devices to reduce misconnection errors: Guidelines for implementation in Australia

I am writing to advise that the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) and the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) have released *ISO 80369-6:2016 neural connector devices to reduce misconnection errors: Guidelines for implementation in Australia*.

The International Standard *ISO 80369-6:2016 Small bore connectors for liquids and gases in healthcare applications – Part 6: Connectors for neuraxial applications* was introduced with the aim of reducing erroneous intrathecal, epidural and other neural route procedures. In April 2019, the Commission and ANZCA published a joint statement recommending that medical devices incorporating small-bore connectors be regulated in accordance with ISO 80369-6: 2016 and providing guidance for safe implementation of the neural connector devices.

The Commission has developed guidelines, including a safety checklist, to support the implementation of ISO80369-6:2016 compliant neural connector devices in Australia. The guidelines are available at:

www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/medication-safety/position-and-safety-statements#neuraxial-connectors-and-iso-80369-6:2016

The joint statement by the Commission and ANZCA, and the international standard ISO 80369-6:2016 are available on the Commission's website at:

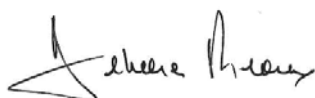
www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/medication-safety/position-and-safety-statements

The Commission seeks your assistance in promoting and improving patient safety in Australia by distributing the guidelines to your services and networks.

Should you have any queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact:

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Yours sincerely



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