

# ARC Medical, Inc.

## ThermoFlo™ System

### Manufacturer's Recommendations

Contraindications to Use of ThermoFlo™ System:

1. Copious amounts of bloody secretions.
2. Expiratory volume 25% less than Inspiratory volume (possible fistula).

Recommendations:

1. Use on new patients. Conversion of existing patients requires additional effort and psych. preparation.
2. MDI or Neb treatments may be given between patient and filter. Check for increased resistance after treatment.
3. Follow manufacturers' directions for lavaging using closed suction devices.

Do not allow lavaging solution to flow into the device.

**REPLACE DEVICE EVERY 24 HOURS OR SOONER, DEPENDING ON SECRETIONS.**

**Patients Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sputum Definitions** (Suzukawa, et. al., *Respiratory Care*, Nov. 1989)

**Watery** Sputum that can be suctioned like water. After suction is terminated, no secretions remain attached to the inner surface of suction catheter.

**Moderate** Sputum of moderate viscosity. After suction is terminated, some secretions remain attached to the inner surface of the suction catheter, but they can be easily washed out by suctioning water through the catheter.

**Tenacious** Thick sputum. After suction is terminated, most secretions are still attached to the inner surface of the suction

Date	Shift	Initials	Watery	Moderate	Tenacious	Condensate (0,1,2 or 3)
	7-3					
	3-11					
	11-7					
	7-3					
	3-11					
	11-7					
	7-3					
	3-11					
	11-7					
	7-3					
	3-11					
	11-7					
	7-3					
	3-11					
	11-7					
	7-3					
	3-11					
	11-7					

**Condensate Definitions**

(Beydon, et. al. Chest, Sept. 1997)

The apparent water condensed in the flex tubing seems to be the best indicator of humidifying efficiency (after 24h of use)

Estimate the quantity of water between patient and HCH device

- 0 = dry
- 1 = mist without drops
- 2 = drops without condensation
- 3 = water condensation

Continue to use  
System as long as  
secretions are  
controlled.

Copious secretions? Consider the following:

1. Increase the frequency of suctioning to reduce the amount of secretions. (For open suctioning, reverse 1 and 2.)
2. Position the device above the patient to reduce fouling.
3. Replace the device every 8 hours until the secretions are controlled.
4. Switch to a heated water bath humidifier.

Tenacious secretions? Consider the following:

1. Check for air leaking around ET Tube cuff and correct.
2. Check for proper hydration of patient and correct.
3. Manage the secretions with extra lavaging.
4. Switch to heated water bath system.