

Intersurgical Guedel Airways

New ISO 5364:2016 Specified Colours



Guedel Airways are used to establish and maintain the airway in an unconscious patient. They lift the tongue from the posterior pharyngeal wall, preventing the tongue from falling back and obstructing the airway.



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ISO 5364:2016 guidance

It is necessary for all medical devices to meet various requirements related to performance, labelling and safety, these are specified in international standards. The requirements for Guedel Airways are set out in ISO 5364:2016 Anaesthetic and Respiratory Equipment - Oropharyngeal Airways. In the most recent version, a new requirement was implemented requiring all manufacturers of Oropharyngeal Airways to adhere to a strict colour coding system to provide consistency between manufacturers and improve patient safety.

In order to comply with the colour coding system specified in ISO 5364:2016, it was necessary for Intersurgical to update four sizes of Guedels. The sizes that have changed are as follows:

- ISO size 3.5; from Pink to Light Green
- ISO size 6.5; from White to Brown
- ISO size 7.0; from Yellow to White
- ISO size 9.0; from Orange to Yellow

Recommendations for customers

Each department will need to consider locally how the change will be implemented, as it may take time for existing stock to be used.

There are a number of support materials that Intersurgical has produced in order to smooth the transition from the previous colours to the new ISO required colours.

These include:

- All boxes of Guedel Airways will be supplied with an information leaflet confirming details regarding the colour changes for the Intersurgical range
- All boxes of Guedel Airways will have a sticker on the outside of the box to alert of the colour change
- Posters are available to inform all users and could also be used for training purposes

Full details on sizes and colour can be found in the table below:

Product Code	ISO Size	Previous Intersurgical Colour		New ISO Compliant Colour	
1000035 (S*)	3.5	Pink		Light Green	NEW
1100050 (S*)	5.0	Blue		Blue	
1110055 (S*)	5.5	Grey		Grey	
1111065 (S*)	6.5	White		Brown	NEW
1111570 (S*)	7.0	Yellow		White	NEW
1112080 (S*)	8.0	Green		Green	
1113090 (S*)	9.0	Orange		Yellow	NEW
1114100 (S*)	10.0	Red		Red	
1115120 (S*)	12.0	Purple		Purple	

This colour change effects all of Intersurgical's Guedel Airway products, including bulk-packed options.

(S*) Add an S to the seven digit code number for the sterile version of this product eg. 5000000S



The four sizes of Intersurgical Guedel airways that have had their colours changed to conform to the updated standard.

For more information, please visit www.intersurgical.com/info/guedelairway

Additional information

Intersurgical currently manufactures Guedel Airways in 9 sizes, these can be provided sterile or non-sterile.

By utilising an innovative one-piece design, two materials with different characteristics are combined into one moulding. The risks to patient safety associated with using loose or detached bite blocks are all negated by the one-piece design.

We have recently increased the softness of the tip of the Guedel to further reduce the risk of trauma upon insertion.

One-piece design

With no separate inner bite block - safer by design

Nine colour-coded sizes

To meet all patient requirements



Rigid body

To maintain a patent airway

Clear colour-coding

For easy identification



Soft tip

Reduces risk of tissue damage

Softer second material

Reduces the potential for dental damage and trauma