



## News Release

**For Immediate Release**

### **Medical Specialties Distributors, LLC (MSD) Announces MedStream Kits Help in the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections**

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**Stoughton, MA – November 30, 2009—** Medical Specialties Distributors, LLC (MSD), the leading supplier of healthcare products and biomedical equipment rentals and services to the home infusion market, announced today that MedStream kits, packs, and trays are specifically designed to comply with the recently released draft guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter related infections by the CDC.

On November 3, 2009 the CDC released draft guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections which once finalized will update those published in 2002. The guidelines are intended to provide evidence-based recommendations for preventing catheter-related infections.

Among the recommendations the CDC advocates using a 2% chlorhexidine preparation for skin antisepsis. Chloraprep<sup>®</sup>, a 2% chlorhexidine gluconate and 70% isopropyl alcohol formulation, provides a rapid-acting, persistent and broad spectrum skin antiseptic. A variety of MedStream Kits are available with Chloraprep<sup>®</sup> One-Step applicators, swab-sticks, and swabs.

In addition, the CDC recommends using chlorhexidine impregnated sponge dressings if the rate of infection is high despite adherence to other strategies (i.e., education and training, and 2%chlorhexidine for skin antisepsis). BIOPATCH<sup>®</sup> Protective Disc with CHG, a polyurethane foam disk with CHG, is designed for use with IV catheters, central venous lines, arterial catheters and PICC lines is available in MedStream in kits, packs and trays.

As noted by Richard Worthen, MSD Vice President of Sales and Marketing, because pathogens colonize the skin surrounding IV sites, it is important to use “antiseptics and medicated dressings as recommended by CDC” in order to inhibit the growth and migration of bacteria to help prevent catheter related infections. MedStream dressing change kits, according Worthen, offer Chloraprep<sup>®</sup> One-Step products and BIOPATCH<sup>®</sup> Protective Disc with CHG to assist customers in complying with CDC guidelines.

For more information about MSD, MedStream kits, Chloraprep<sup>®</sup> or BIOPATCH<sup>®</sup> Protective Disc with CHG call 800.967.6400 or visit us online [www.msdonline.com](http://www.msdonline.com).

**ABOUT MEDICAL SPECIALTIES DISTRIBUTORS, LLC (MSD):** In December 2005, MSD acquired the assets of Medical Specialties Distributors, Inc., a company that had previously serviced the alternate-site market place since 1984. MSD continues to be a primary distributor of med surg product and biomedical equipment into the alternate-site marketplace. Recently, MSD launched a major initiative into the acute



Medical Specialties Distributors, LLC

care market to support the equipment needs of hospitals nationwide. MSD's additional services include formulary development, online ordering, equipment management and tracking, and patient direct delivery programs. MSD is an authorized distributor for most of the healthcare industry's leading group purchasing organizations and is also ISO 9001:2000 & ISO 13485:2003 Certified.

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