

# Ventilator FAQ's

## **Can we purchase CO2 absorbers and how long does each last?**

The Anesthesia Unit has a circular shaped soda lime canister which mounts to the left side of the frame, just to the left of the ventilator as you look at the unit from the front. The canister is designed for either single or double limb anesthesia circuitry. That canister holds 400 mg. of soda lime. According to the US Army who did a study at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, under normal breathing conditions, that amount of soda lime is expended in four to six hours of use. The soda lime canisters are available from us or your dealer in either factory pre-filled disposable, or refillable models. Since a busy machine will go through quite a few of the disposable units, and they are a dated product we do not stock them, instead we provide the refillable unit as standard equipment with our machines, which is included in the price you have or will be quoted.

We stock the refillable units, and several of our customers have bought a second one to have filled and on hand in the event that their first one would become expended during the middle of a case, and they could simply put on the other, filled, one and repeat the process. Your dealer can quote replacement or additional canisters, either pre-filled or disposable. For most customers, this is not an issue. We have been asked whether the much larger soda lime canisters would work with our equipment and the answer is yes, they will, in fact we have a few of the large ones on hand. The reason we did not choose the large canisters for standard delivery is portability, they are simply a lot larger and thus harder to handle. In our design process, bulk was an important component, but the large ones you may be familiar with will work just fine.

## **Does the unit have a scavenger system and cartridges that can be replaced and what is their cost?**

The unit comes standard with an active/passive waste gas scavenging system, fully FDA cleared. The canister/cartridge system you may be referring to is a canister of charcoal. The charcoal canister, which does not eliminate nitrous oxide is not approved for human use, but is commonly used with animal cases. We do not sell them, but they are available from SurgiVet, an operating Division of BCI (a monitoring company) in Kenosha, Wisconsin. BCI, in turn, is part of Smiths Medical of the UK.

## **Is there an extra cost if we wanted to get a sevoflurane vapourizer? What is the cost of it if we decide to purchase at a later date?**

Your machine will come to you with a vaporizer included in the purchase price quoted to you. You will have your choice of anesthetic agents Halothane, Sevoflurane or Isoflurane. If you, for example, choose Sevoflurane, there will be no extra cost whatever.

Whichever vaporizer you choose to be the "included" one, we stock all of the others and your dealer will be able to quote those to you at any time. Customarily dealers charge \$2,750.00 for a vaporizer, if you choose to purchase a second one at a later date. That price, however, will be up to your dealer. All of the vaporizers we sell are interchangeable with one another, and the process takes about 1 minute.

## Ventilator FAQ's continued

### **What is the charge for a cleaning/calibration of the vapourizer?**

We intentionally chose the Penlon Sigma Delta series of vaporizers to include with these machines because, in their manual, Penlon refer to a 10-year-between-maintenance cycle, as opposed to the more common 2 or 3 year cycles you may recall as common with either the Drager or the Ohmeda vaporizers. Penlon have been making vaporizers for about 60 years. The Penlon vaporizer operators manual has details on calibration, but the short answer is “as needed”, and thusfar in our experience, calibration has never been called for by a customer (we have had these in the marketplace since late 2001, or about 6 years). As to cleaning the outside of the vaporizer, the whole machine for that matter, the answer is soap and water, nothing elaborate at all.

### **How long is the warranty on this unit?**

5 years on the ventilator, 1 year on all other parts.