

## Protecting Vulnerable ICU Patients from Additional Complications

COVID-19 cases are rapidly rising in Europe. Learnings from Italy show that 24,5%<sup>1</sup> of cases are severe and 10%<sup>2</sup> of cases need treatment in critical care units for intensive/advanced respiratory support. Besides the urgent and important need to protect health care professionals with personal protection equipment, it is also of key importance to protect vulnerable patients from additional complications.

3M solutions can help to prevent additional burden to ICU and its staff by preventing further complications such as:

- Catheter related bloodstream infections
- Catheter dislodgement

Tegaderm™ CHG I.V. Securement Dressings protect against extraluminal contamination and 3M™ Curosurf™ disinfecting caps protect against intraluminal contamination. Tegaderm™ CHG I.V. Securement Dressings effectively secure catheters for up to 7 days.



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## Background Information:

Whilst receiving treatment for respiratory failure, many intravascular lines are inserted that also carry a risk of complications<sup>(3,4)</sup>. These lines include arterial, dialysis and centrally inserted vascular catheters and catheters for extracorporeal membrane oxygenations (ECMO).

Previous data has shown that in general (non-epidemic times) the average length of critical care stay can increase considerably if complications such as blood stream infections occur.<sup>(5)</sup> During the COVID-19 pandemic, there is increased demand of resources, both with critical care beds as well as highly skilled clinical staff<sup>(6)</sup>. 3M solutions can help to prevent additional burden to the healthcare system by preventing further complications. 3M offers simple to use and scientifically proven solutions for preventing intravascular catheter related complications: both extraluminal<sup>a</sup> and intraluminal<sup>b</sup> catheter protection from infections<sup>(7-9)</sup> and advanced catheter securement<sup>c</sup> to prevent catheter dislodgement. These solutions have been well accepted by clinical staff and implementation to the clinical areas is an easy step to current clinical practices<sup>(10,11)</sup>

*a) Tegaderm™ CHG I.V. Securement Dressings, All-in-one antimicrobial catheter securement dressing that reduce the risk of a catheter related infection by 60%.*

*b) 3M™ Curosurf™ disinfecting caps for female and male luer connections and needleless devices used for administration of IV therapy. Disinfecting caps provide fast, passive and reliable disinfection, saving valuable time of clinical staff. They can be used on all catheter hubs and lines.*

*c) Tegaderm™ CHG I.V. Securement Dressings, Catheter securement dressings can secure catheters for up to 7 days.*

### References:

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