



Urgent Field Safety Notice

Covidien Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar & Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar

Potential for Damage to Seal When Used with Mesh Products
Customer Notification

**Model #: OMS-T10SB, OMS-T10BT, OMS-T10BTNL,
OMS-T10BTS, OMS-T10BTSNL, OMS-T12BT and OMS-T12BTNL**

March 2024

Medtronic Reference: FA1398

Dear Health Care Providers and Risk Managers,

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that Medtronic is issuing a field safety notice regarding the potential for damage to the seal structure of the **Covidien Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar** and **Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar** when used to introduce hernia mesh products under certain conditions as described below. This safety notice applies to all distributed products with the models listed in Table 1.

Issue Description:

We have received reports of events related to Covidien Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar and Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar reporting trocar seal disengagement when using the trocar with certain mesh products. This issue can occur when the trocar is used to deploy the mesh not in accordance with the mesh Instructions for Use (IFU).

Not following the IFU for the mesh including use of incompatible trocar size, excess force, and not hydrating the mesh and/ or folding of the mesh could result in a seal disengaging into the cavity during mesh insertion in the trocar. The user would not be able to detect these issues prior to use.

It is important to carefully review and adhere to the manufacturer's IFU for both the trocar and mesh. The trocar products are meeting the design and functional intent and are clinically acceptable for use. In addition, the trocar products meet the manufacturing specifications. The Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar and Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar devices can continue to be used clinically.

Potential Patient Risk:

Seal disengagement may lead to the potential risk for foreign body in the patient (including radiation exposure for radiographic imaging, and possible allergic reaction of any retained foreign body), delay of treatment, subcutaneous emphysema from CO₂ insufflation leak, tissue injury and/or nerve damage with any sudden loss of pneumoperitoneum.

Until 20-FEB-2024, Medtronic has received 344 reports from customers globally related to the Covidien™ Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar and Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar seal disengagement issue. No serious adverse events have been reported for this issue.

Table 1 - Product Scope:

Product Names	Model
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Medtronic

Covidien Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar	OMS-T10SB
Covidien Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar	OMS-T10BTNL
	OMS-T10BTSNL
	OMS-T12BTNL
	OMS-T10BT
	OMS-T12BT
	OMS-T10BTS

Required Customer Actions:

1. Inform all surgeons and clinicians who handle the preparation and/ or placement of a Mesh Device that utilize the balloon and blunt tip trocar devices.
2. Prior to using any Mesh device in conjunction with the following Trocars: Covidien Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar and Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar, please carefully review and adhere to the mesh manufacturer's Instructions for Use (IFU) on proper insertion techniques.
3. [Please complete and return the customer acknowledgement form enclosed with this letter acknowledging receipt of this information.](#)
4. Please transfer this notice to other organizations on which this action has an impact and maintain a copy of this notice in your records.

Medtronic Additional Actions to be taken for this issue:

Medtronic is currently working on incorporating additional warning statement as revisions to the Covidien Auto Suture™ Structural Balloon Trocar and Auto Suture™ Blunt Tip Trocar IFU in response to this notification. The intent of the additional warning statement is to guide the user to follow best practices related to the use of the mesh with these trocar devices. Upon regulatory approvals Medtronic will send a follow up communication to customers making them aware of this IFU update.

Medtronic has notified the Competent Authority of your country of this issue.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause. We are committed to patient safety and appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact your Medtronic Sales Representative [at lungile.mvuyane@medtronic.com](mailto:lungile.mvuyane@medtronic.com).

Sincerely,

Dirk Gey Van Pittius

Senior Regulatory Affairs Manager

Enclosure:

- [Customer Acknowledgement Form](#)