



## Summary

### **Philips Respironics - Update on PE-PUR testing results and conclusions available to date**

Updated: December 21, 2022

Philips Respironics provides an update on the comprehensive test and research program following the voluntary [recall notification/field safety notice](#)\* to address potential health risks related to the polyester-based polyurethane (PE-PUR) sound abatement foam in specific CPAP, BiPAP and mechanical ventilator devices.

Following previous updates in [December 2021](#) and [June 2022](#), additional test results and assessments have now been **completed for the first-generation DreamStation devices** (approximately 68% of the registered devices globally). These devices have not been exposed to ozone cleaning in line with the instructions for use.

The test and research program has been conducted together with five independent, certified testing laboratories, and the results have been reviewed and assessed by third-party qualified experts and Philips Respironics, as well as an external medical panel.

- **Philips Respironics has provided the data and analyses to the FDA and other competent authorities. The FDA is still considering the data and analyses that Philips Respironics has provided and may reach different conclusions.**
- **Healthcare providers, patients, and other stakeholders should use the complete [update](#) (including information on the limitations of the testing) for any informed decision making and should not solely rely on the overview in this press release.**
- **Philips Respironics' guidance for healthcare providers and patients remains unchanged.**
- **Philips Respironics will continue with the remediation program.**

The complete update on the PE-PUR testing results and conclusions available to date can be found [here](#), and the overall findings for the first-generation DreamStation devices have been summarized below.



## Results for first-generation DreamStation devices not exposed to ozone cleaning:

**1) The new results indicate that exposure to particulate matter (PM) emissions from degraded foam in DreamStation devices, including potential respirable and non-respirable particulates, is unlikely to result in an appreciable harm to health in patients.**

New, lab-aged and used devices were tested and all were compliant with ISO 18562-2 [1] allowable limits for PM emissions. Testing was performed on devices with varying degrees of degradation (i.e., from no degradation to severe degradation), including 61 new devices, 96 used devices, and 24 devices with lab-aged foam that intentionally had been exposed to significantly elevated temperatures ( $\geq 80$  °C) and humidity ( $\geq 75\%$  RH) to accelerate degradation.

Further tested PM emissions of used devices with degradation were not statistically different than PM emissions of used devices without degradation, suggesting that degradation did not contribute to appreciable elevated levels of respirable particles in the devices tested.

Biocompatibility testing, including the chemical evaluation and toxicological risk assessment in accordance with ISO 10993 [2], is now complete for the foam in first-generation DreamStation devices. Even with the very conservative and theoretical assumption of exposure to all of the degraded PE-PUR foam within the device, the third-party risk assessment concluded that exposure to particulates from degraded foam in DreamStation devices, including potential respirable and non-respirable particulates, is unlikely to result in an appreciable harm to health in patients.

**2) The results further indicate that the exposure to volatile organic compound emissions (VOCs) is not anticipated to result in long-term health consequences for patients.**

Expanded testing and toxicological risk assessments on multiple devices with new, used, and lab-aged foam have shown no appreciable harm to health for the VOCs detected. Therefore, exposure to the level of VOCs identified to date for the first-generation DreamStation devices is not anticipated to result in long-term health consequences for patients based on ISO 18562-3 [3] testing and evaluation of new, lab-aged and used devices. This is consistent with the results presented in [December 2021](#). Similar to the PM testing described above, VOC testing was performed on new, lab-aged and used devices with varying degrees of degradation.

**3) Prevalence of visible foam degradation in inspected returned devices was found to be low.**

Based on the visual inspection of the foam in returned first-generation DreamStation devices, the prevalence of visible foam degradation was found to be low. 164 out of 36,341 (0.5%) returned devices from the US and Canada were inspected and showed significant visible foam degradation. These devices were self-reported as not using ozone cleaning. Only 1 out of 2,469 (0.04%) inspected devices returned from multiple countries in Europe showed significant visible foam degradation. This included devices from the Netherlands, the UK, Italy, and Spain, ranged in age up to around 6 years. None of the 1,964 (0%) inspected returned devices from Japan showed significant visible degradation. This is consistent with the results presented in [June 2022](#).

Visual inspection can only identify visible foam degradation and cannot measure volatile organic compounds generation or quantify particulate loss, therefore additional testing and analyses were performed as described above and in the complete update.

## **Results to date on the impact of ozone cleaning on PE-PUR foam degradation**

Philips Respironics is also conducting ongoing testing on devices that have been exposed to ozone cleaning in addition to the tests related to first-generation DreamStation devices that have not been exposed to ozone cleaning.

### **Results to date for first-generation DreamStation devices exposed to ozone cleaning:**

- 1) Data available to date for first-generation DreamStation devices indicate that ozone cleaning exacerbates foam degradation:** returned devices from the US and Canada with user-reported ozone cleaning are 14 times more likely to have significant visible foam degradation (7% of the inspected devices) compared to devices with no user-reported ozone exposure (0.5% of the inspected devices). This observation is consistent with laboratory testing, where first-generation DreamStation devices exposed to increasing cycles of ozone cleaning had increasingly more severe visual degradation.
- 2) Testing and analyses regarding risks associated with respirable and non-respirable particulates have been performed to date on devices with known ozone exposure. Two used devices with user-reported ozone exposure were included in the extractables and leachables testing, which formed the foundation for a toxicological risk assessment of foam particulates in accordance with ISO 10993-17 and -18 [2]. That third-party collective analysis concluded that **exposure to particulates from degraded foam with self-reported ozone use in first-generation DreamStation devices is unlikely to result in an appreciable harm to health in patients.****
- 3) The VOC toxicological risk of this ozone-induced foam degradation is still being assessed.**

## Test methods

The test and research program is being conducted together with five independent, certified testing laboratories, third-party qualified experts, and an external medical panel. The applied test methods – comprising test planning, test execution, and interpretation of the results for the completed risk assessments – are in accordance with the applicable ISO 18562 [1,3] and ISO 10993 [2] industry standards. The design of the applied test methods was further scientifically underpinned based on a thorough consideration and mitigation of testing limitations that are inherent to any test standard and/or scientific research. To illustrate this, examples of such considerations and mitigations have been listed below.

### **The scientific underpinning of the applied test methods included a thorough consideration and mitigation of testing limitations, for example:**

- Testing of a device per ISO 18562 only captures a “snapshot” of device performance during degradation, and it may not be known whether there will be maxima in concentration of hazards (i.e., VOCs or particulates). **To address this, testing was performed on multiple used devices with differing amounts of patient usage and observed visual foam degradation, and on lab-aged foam that had been intentionally degraded to different degrees.** Therefore, multiple “snapshots” of potential patient exposure can be captured as a function of device degradation to determine if a patient health risk may exist during the degradation process.
- Lab-aging of foam is being used to induce various levels of foam degradation in controlled conditions without contamination from the environment, for comparison to levels of degradation in used devices. Lab-aging conditions are not intended to be predictive of foam degradation progression observed in used devices. **Differences may exist in how the lab-aged PE-PUR foam degrades compared to the used foam over the lifetime use of the device, and these differences were considered in the completed risk assessments.**
- ISO 18562-2 testing of devices quantifies the concentration of respirable particulates based only on their size range (i.e., up to 10 µm in diameter), but does not measure non-respirable particles (i.e., greater than 10 µm), nor does the standard characterize the chemicals present in particles detected. **To address this, additional testing in accordance with ISO 10993 and very conservative assumptions were included** such as a risk assessment calculation assuming that all of the foam in the device could become degraded and contact the patient, and chemical characterization and toxicological risk characterization of chemicals present in PE-PUR foam in accordance with ISO 10993-18 and -17 [2].
- Visual inspections are qualitative in nature and do not quantify VOCs or particulates within or emitted from a device. **The visual inspection results did not contribute to the risk assessment calculation.** While visual inspections have identified visual foam degradation in a limited number of first-generation DreamStation devices (0.5% of used devices from the US and Canada, self-reported without ozone use), the associated risk assessment very conservatively assumed that all first-generation DreamStation users could be exposed to all of the PE-PUR foam within the device, and that all of that PE-PUR foam was degraded. Even with the conservative assumption of exposure to all degraded PE-PUR foam within the device, the third-party risk assessment concluded that exposure to particulates from degraded foam in first-generation DreamStation devices is unlikely to result in an appreciable harm to health in patients.

## **Prior history of the test and research program**

At the time the recall notification/field safety notice\* was issued, Philips Respironics relied on an initial, limited data set and toxicological risk assessment, and assumed a worst-case scenario for the possible health risks out of an abundance of caution. Since then, together with five certified, independent testing laboratories in the US and Europe, as well as other qualified third-party experts, Philips Respironics has conducted a comprehensive test and research program on the PE-PUR foam to determine the prevalence of foam degradation, better assess and scope the potential patient health risks related to possible emission of PM from degraded foam and VOCs and determine the root cause of foam degradation. This also included an in-depth review and re-assessment of data and toxicological risk-assessments prior to June 2021.

The third-party review of the first-generation DreamStation VOC test data and toxicological risk-assessments that was available prior to June 2021 found that the analytical characterization for VOCs at the time misidentified one compound (acetone was misidentified as dimethyl diazene) and mischaracterized another compound (a phenol-based antioxidant and stabilizer present in the PE-PUR foam) as a mutagen and carcinogen. Expanded VOC testing since June 2021 has shown no detection of dimethyl diazene in any of the tests. Through re-evaluation of the VOC data prior to June 2021, the third-party toxicological risk assessment found no risk concern for adverse health effects in patients.

## **Summary of ongoing tests**

Philips Respironics is in the process of completing various other tests. As mentioned above, the toxicological risk assessment of the VOC emissions resulting from ozone-induced foam degradation in first generation DreamStation devices is being finalized. Next to this, testing for the SystemOne sleep therapy devices (approximately 26% of the registered devices globally) and DreamStation Go (approximately 1% of the registered devices globally) that contain the same PE-PUR foam as the first-generation DreamStation devices is in progress.

Additionally, for the Trilogy 100/200 (approximately 3% of the registered devices globally) and OmniLab Advanced Plus ventilator devices (approximately 2% of the registered devices globally) VOC and PM testing continues, as well as chemical evaluation and toxicological risk assessment. These devices contain a different type of PE-PUR foam than the first-generation DreamStation devices [4].

New Trilogy 100/200 devices passed VOC and PM testing to date, as well as several biocompatibility tests including ISO 10993 cytotoxicity, irritation and sensitization testing.

However, new and lab-aged Trilogy 100/200 foam failed ISO 10993 genotoxicity testing, and therefore a weight of evidence assessment is ongoing to confirm or exclude potential risks for patient under the expected usage of these devices. Similar to the analyses performed for the first-generation DreamStation foam, additional chemical characterization as well as experiments to assess the probability and amount of degraded PE-PUR foam that can potentially reach the patient are being conducted to support the full toxicological risk assessment.

## **Guidance for healthcare providers and patients**

Philips Respironics continues to advise patients using affected CPAP/BiPAP sleep therapy devices to contact their physician or care provider to decide on a suitable treatment for their condition, which may include stopping use of their device, continuing to use their affected device, using another similar device that is not part of the recall, or using alternative treatments for sleep apnea. Moreover, patients are advised to follow Philips Respironics' instructions and recommended cleaning and replacement guidelines for their CPAP machine and accessories. Ozone and UV light cleaning products are not currently approved cleaning methods for sleep apnea devices or masks and should not be used. Philips Respironics also continues to advise users of mechanical ventilator devices to contact their healthcare providers before making any changes to their therapy.

## **Remediation program**

Philips Respironics remains fully committed to support patients, remediating the devices affected by the recall notification/field safety notice\* and continues to work with the relevant competent authorities to further optimize the remediation plan. Philips Respironics expects to complete around 90% of the production this year for the delivery of replacement devices to patients.

\* *Voluntary recall notification in the US/field safety notice for the rest of the world.*

- [1] *ISO 18562-2: Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare applications – Part 2: Tests for emissions of particulate matter.*
- [2] *ISO 10993: Biological evaluation of medical devices; Part 1: Evaluation and testing within a risk management process; Part 3: Tests for genotoxicity, carcinogenicity and reproductive toxicity; Part 5: Tests for in vitro cytotoxicity; Part 10: Tests for irritation and skin sensitization; Part 17: Establishment of allowable limits for leachable substances; Part 18: Chemical characterization of medical device materials within a risk management process.*
- [3] *ISO 18562-3: Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare applications – Part 3: Tests for emissions of volatile organic compounds.*
- [4] *First-generation DreamStation, SystemOne and DreamStation Go devices contain Type A PE-PUR foam, while Trilogy 100/200 devices contain Type B PE-PUR foam, and OmniLab Advanced Plus devices contain Type A and Type B PE-PUR foams. The known differences between the Type A and Type B foams are that Type B foam can be used with an acrylic pressure sensitive adhesive, has a lower density, has a different thickness, and also contains an additive to reduce potential flammability.*