



## 1. DEVICE/EQUIPMENT:

Spacelabs 5 lead ECG cable: part number 012-012301 Batch numbers 31942, 34956, 35209, 35296, 35747, 36239 and 36555.

## 2. PROBLEM:

The yellow (left arm) and green (left leg) leads of some batches of their 5 lead ECG cable, part number 012-0123-01, have been cross connected. This can result in errors such as wrong lead displayed and lead inverted. All life threatening arrhythmias that generate alarms will still do so, even with the switched electrodes.

## 3. ACTION BY:

All nursing, medical and technical personnel using these devices.

## 4. ACTION:

- Faulty cables can be found by looking for the following codes:

31942, 34956, 35209, 35296, 35747, 36239, 36555

marked on the yoke under the part number (see figure 1)

- If the batch code is illegible, contact your Medical Engineering Department to conduct a continuity test from the yellow (L) lead on the flat connector to the second pin to the right of the keyway on the round connector (see figure 2). If there is no continuity, the cable is miswired. If there is continuity (low resistance) the cable is good.

## 5. ONWARD DISTRIBUTION TO:

Please bring this notice to the attention of all who need to know or be aware of it. This will include distribution to:

- Liaison Officers
- Risk Managers
- Health & Safety Officers/Advisors
- Clinical Governance Leads
- Device Managers
- Estates Managers
- EBME Departments
- Medical Directors
- Clinical Directors
- Nurse Directors
- Medical, Nursing and Care Staff
- Ambulance Staff and Paramedics
- Special Care Baby Units
- All Wards
- Independent Health and Social Care Providers – Private Clinics through HSSRIA Board R&I Units
- Operating Theatre Staff
- Accident & Emergency Departments
- Coronary Care
- Intensive Care
- Resuscitation Officers
- High dependency Units

## 6. CONTACTS:

Enquiries to the manufacturer should be addressed to:

Mr A Peace  
Spacelabs Medical UK Ltd  
Unit 2  
Chiltern Court  
Asheridge Road  
Chesham  
Bucks  
HP5 2PX

Tel: 0845 601 7224

Enquires to NIAIC should quote reference number MDEA(NI)2005/76 and be addressed to:

Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC)  
Health Estates  
Estate Policy Directorate  
Stoney Road  
Dundonald  
Belfast BT16 1US

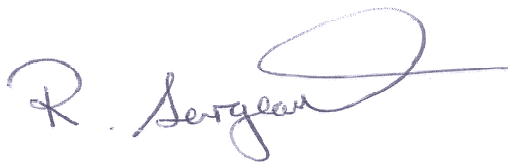
Tel: 028 9052 3868

Fax: 028 9052 3900

Email: [NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk)

## 7. FEEDBACK:

None required.



Robert Sergeant  
NIAIC Operational Manager

### HOW TO REPORT ADVERSE INCIDENTS

Adverse Incidents relating to medical devices, non-medical equipment, plant and buildings should be reported to NIAIC as soon as possible. Advice on how to report is given in MDEA(NI)2005/01. If you are in doubt about how to report incidents, please speak to your liaison officer or contact NIAIC using the telephone number provided. Adverse Incident reporting forms and an on-line reporting facility are available on the NIAIC website at [www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/niaic](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/niaic)

*Heath Estates is an Executive Agency of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety*

Figure 1



Figure 2

