

Q: Is it safe to use acetic acid in the F&P Bubble CPAP Generator?

A: The F&P Bubble CPAP Generator has an additional function as a water trap. It is recommended that the Bubble Generator be positioned as low as possible when mounted on a pole to encourage the condensate, that may form in the expiratory limb, to run down into it. In the event that the neonate does contaminate the circuit, the mobile condensate will drain to the Bubble Generator.

Flow is unidirectional through the patient circuit. Any pathogens in the expiratory limb are not able to travel up the limb against gas flow. If there is contaminated condensate in the expiratory limb it will drain down into the properly-positioned Bubble Generator.

F&P recommends the use of sterile water in the Bubble Generator. Some hospitals may prefer to use 0.25% acetic acid solution.

Users of Bubble CPAP that prefer to use acetic acid for infection control purposes commonly use **0.25% acetic acid solution** in the bubbler.¹ The F&P Bubble CPAP generator has been tested to 0.25% (pH 3) and the solution was found to have no effect on the bubbler material and set pressures.



(Fig. 1) CPAP Generator image

Ref:

¹Nasal Prongs Continuous Positive Airway Pressure: A Simple Yet Powerful Tool. Hany Z. Aly, MD, FAAP Department of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology Division of Newborn Service George Washington University Medical Center Children's National Medical Center Washington, DC 2003. PEDIATRICS Vol. 108 No. 3 September 2001