

# Customer Information Bulletin

## Rocket® FBS Kits - the use of mixing wires

### Dear Customer,

Rocket Medical do not supply capillary sample tube 'mixing wires' in Rocket® FBS Kits and we do NOT recommend their use.

Mixing wires are occasionally employed to assist in the distribution of heparin within a 'low heparin' concentration capillary sampling tube. The use of mixing techniques may be applicable to routine, low concentration tubes containing between 40-70 IU/ml heparin.

By comparison, the sampling tubes supplied in Rocket® FBS Kits are ultra-high heparin tubes with concentrations between 100 - 240IU/ml.

The use of mixing wires (or 'fleas') and the techniques of rolling the sample tube, tipping end-to-end or even shaking are *strongly* discouraged.

Our 20 year experience of FBS Kit development and end-user training has shown the use of wires and other mixing techniques actually increases the risk of air entrainment into fetal scalp samples. Contamination with air is the most common cause of 'insufficient sample errors' and sample rejection by modern blood gas analysers.

**For this reason we do NOT supply mixing wires in our Rocket® FBS kits as we consider them unnecessary, potentially damaging to samples and therefore strongly discourage their use.**

For more information, please refer to our video  
*Using the Rocket FBS Blood Sampling Kit* at [www.rocketmedical.com](http://www.rocketmedical.com)

### HIGH HEPARIN TUBES

- Do NOT use:
  - mixing wires, fleas & magnets
- Do NOT shake the tube
- Do NOT tip the tube
- Do NOT roll

#### Customer Information Bulletins

for all of our products can be found on our web site at: [www.rocketmedical.com](http://www.rocketmedical.com)

**If you have any questions, please contact the  
Customer Services Team for assistance:**

**Tel: +44 191 419 6988. Email: [customerservices@rocketmedical.com](mailto:customerservices@rocketmedical.com)**

This  
Customer Information Bulletin  
applies to these product codes

**R57012**

**R57013**

**R57018**

**R57024**

**R57026**

**R57027**

**R57028**

**R57012-00-SW**

**R57013-00-SW**

**R57018-00-SW**

**R57024-00-SW**

**R57026-00-SW**

**R57028-00-SW**