

October 16, 1996

In reply

We are pleased to make the following reply to the letter from P. Tewari et al. regarding Acoma vaporizers:

In their letter, it was pointed out that our vaporizer model in question is not designed to allow use right up to the last drop of anesthetic agents. Our Acoma vaporizer model F is a compact, lightweight unit whose wick capacity is rather limited. Therefore it is specially designed so that from a safety viewpoint, a reserve of approximately 30ml is left even after the liquid level is no longer visible on the indicator. It is an irregular practice to shake a vaporizer, and such shaking should not be done for any type of vaporizer particularly during anesthesia.

As a larger size vaporizer (such as the Drager Isoflurane vaporizer) has a larger diameter as well as a larger wick capacity, its wick serves in a "reserve" role. Among our Acoma vaporizer models, the MKIII series units have a larger size, thus enabling them to be furnished with a larger capacity wick. With this MKIII series, enough of the agent is left to use for several additional minutes even after the indicator level has reached zero.

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