| DI168B-EN (Rev F) | SP-FLEX™ INTERSPINOUS STABILIZATION SYSTEM |
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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE SP-FLEX™ INTERSPINOUS STABILIZATION SYSTEM**

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***For symbols glossary, please refer to www.globusmedical.com/eIFU***

**ENGLISH**

**OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES ONLY**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE SP-FLEX™ INTERSPINOUS STABILIZATION SYSTEM**

## DESCRIPTION

SP-FLEX™ Interspinous Stabilization System is a posterior, interspinous stabilization device that fits between the spinous processes of the lumbosacral (L1-S1) spine. SP-FLEX™ is a cushioning spacer designed to help decompress the spinal segment while aiding in stabilization of the segment. The SP-FLEX™ implant consists of a polycarbonate urethane (PCU) core with two polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bands, and two commercially pure titanium (ASTM F67) crimps. The core also has titanium alloy (ASTM F1295 or ASTM F136) or tantalum (ASTM F560) markers for radiographic visualization. The implant is provided with two stainless steel (ASTM F138) needles to feed the bands around the spinous processes; once the bands are crimped, the needles are detached and are not intended to be implanted.

## INDICATIONS

SP-FLEX™ Interspinous Stabilization System is a posterior non-pedicle interspinous stabilization device for use in the lumbosacral (L1-S1) spine. SP-FLEX™ is indicated for the treatment of patients suffering from the following conditions: degenerative disc disease (defined as back pain of discogenic origin with degeneration of the disc confirmed by history and radiographic studies), retrolisthesis, spondylolisthesis, facet syndrome, and/or lumbar spinal stenosis (defined as a narrowing of the canal, characterized by back, buttock or leg pain producing nerve compression and ischemia, which is relieved by lying supine or flexing the spine).

## WARNINGS

One of the potential risks identified with this system is death. Other potential risks which may require additional surgery, include:

- injury to nerves, vessels, and organs,
- allergic or tissue reaction to implant materials,
- hematoma and impaired wound healing,
- migration or loosening of the device,
- fracture of the device,
- pain, discomfort, or abnormal sensations due to presence of the device,
- heterotopic ossification and fusion,
- venous thrombosis, lung embolism, and cardiac arrest.

These warnings do not include all adverse effects which could occur with surgery in general, but are important considerations particular to orthopedic implants. General surgical risks should be explained to the patient prior to surgery.

Certain degenerative diseases or underlying physiological conditions such as diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, or osteoporosis may alter the healing process, thereby increasing the risk of implant breakage or spinal fracture.

Patients with previous spinal surgery at the level(s) to be treated may have different clinical outcomes compared to those without previous surgery.

Components of this system should not be used with components of any other system or manufacturer.

## PRECAUTIONS

The implantation of this device should be performed only by experienced spinal surgeons because this is a technically demanding procedure presenting a risk of serious injury to the patient. Preoperative planning and patient anatomy should be considered when selecting implant size.

The implants are provided sterile and for single use only. Surgical implants must never be reused. An explanted implant must never be reimplanted. Even though the device appears undamaged, it may have small defects and internal stress patterns which could lead to breakage.

Adequately instruct the patient. Mental or physical impairment which compromises or prevents a patient's ability to comply with necessary limitations or precautions may place that patient at a particular risk during postoperative rehabilitation.

For optimal implant performance, the surgeon should consider the levels of implantation, patient weight, patient activity level, other patient conditions, etc., which may impact on the performance of this system.

## MRI SAFETY INFORMATION

MR

SP-FLEX™ Interspinous Stabilization System is MR Conditional. A patient with this device can be safely scanned in an MR system meeting the following conditions:

- Static magnetic field of 1.5 Tesla and 3.0 Tesla only
- Maximum spatial field gradient of 3,000 gauss/cm (30 T/m) or less
- Maximum MR system reported, whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg (Normal Operating Mode)
- Quadrature Body Coil only

Under the scan conditions defined above, the SP-FLEX™ Interspinous Stabilization System is expected to produce a maximum temperature rise of less than or equal to 3.5°C after 15 minutes of continuous scanning.

The image artifact is not expected to extend beyond 55mm from the device when imaged with a gradient echo pulse sequence and a 3.0 Tesla MRI system.

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

Use of SP-FLEX™ Interspinous Stabilization system is contraindicated in patients with the following conditions:

1. Active systemic infection, infection localized to the site of the proposed implantation, or when the patient has demonstrated allergy or foreign body sensitivity to any of the implant materials.
2. Prior fusion at the level(s) to be treated.
3. Severe osteoporosis, which may prevent adequate fixation
4. Conditions that may place excessive stresses on bone and implants, such as severe obesity or degenerative diseases, are relative contraindications. The decision whether to use these devices in such conditions must be made by the surgeon taking into account the risks versus the benefits to the patient.
5. Patients whose activity, mental capacity, mental illness, alcoholism, drug abuse, occupation, or lifestyle may interfere with their ability to follow postoperative restrictions and who may place undue stresses on the implant during bony healing and may be at a higher risk of implant failure.
6. Any condition not described in the indications for use.

## PACKAGING

These implants and instruments may be supplied pre-packaged and sterile, using gamma irradiation. The integrity of the sterile packaging should be checked to ensure that sterility of the contents is not compromised. Packaging should be carefully checked for completeness and all components should be carefully checked to ensure that there is no damage prior to use. Damaged packages or products should not be used, and should be returned to Globus Medical. During surgery, after the correct size has been determined, remove the products from the packaging using aseptic technique.

The instrument sets are provided nonsterile and are steam sterilized prior to use, as described in the STERILIZATION section below. Following use or exposure to soil, instruments must be cleaned, as described in the CLEANING section below.

## HANDLING

All instruments and implants should be treated with care. Improper use or handling may lead to damage and/or possible malfunction. Products should be checked to ensure that they are in working order prior to surgery. All products should be inspected prior to use to ensure that there is no unacceptable deterioration such as corrosion, discoloration, pitting, cracked seals, etc. Non-working or damaged instruments should not be used, and should be returned to Globus Medical.

## CLEANING

All instruments that can be disassembled must be disassembled for cleaning. All handles must be detached. Instruments may be reassembled following sterilization. The instruments should be cleaned using neutral cleaners before sterilization and introduction into a sterile surgical field or (if applicable) return of the product to Globus Medical.

Cleaning and disinfecting of instruments can be performed with aldehyde-free solvents at higher temperatures. Cleaning and decontamination must include the use of neutral cleaners followed by a deionized water rinse. Note: certain cleaning solutions such as those containing formalin, glutaraldehyde, bleach and/or other alkaline cleaners may damage some devices, particularly instruments; these solutions should not be used.

The following cleaning methods should be observed when cleaning instruments after use or exposure to soil, and prior to sterilization:

1. Immediately following use, ensure that the instruments are wiped down to remove all visible soil and kept from drying by submerging or covering with a wet towel
2. Disassemble all instruments that can be disassembled.
3. Rinse the instruments under running tap water to remove all visible soil. Flush the lumens a minimum of 3 times, until the lumens flush clean.
4. Prepare Enzol® (or a similar enzymatic detergent) per manufacturer's recommendations.
5. Immerse the instruments in the detergent and allow them to soak for a minimum of 2 minutes.

6. Use a soft bristled brush to thoroughly clean the instruments. Use a pipe cleaner for any lumens. Pay close attention to hard to reach areas.
7. Using a sterile syringe, draw up the enzymatic detergent solution. Flush any lumens and hard to reach areas until no soil is seen exiting the area.
8. Remove the instruments from the detergent and rinse them in running warm tap water.
9. Prepare Enzol® (or a similar enzymatic detergent) per manufacturer's recommendations in an ultrasonic cleaner.
10. Completely immerse the instruments in the ultrasonic cleaner and ensure detergent is in lumens by flushing the lumens. Sonicate for a minimum of 3 minutes.
11. Remove the instruments from the detergent and rinse them in running deionized water or reverse osmosis water for a minimum of 2 minutes.
12. Dry instruments using a clean soft cloth and filtered pressurized air.
13. Visually inspect each instrument for visible soil. If visible soil is present, then repeat cleaning process starting with Step 3.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Globus Medical may be contacted at 1-866-GLOBUS1 (456-2871). A surgical technique manual may be obtained by contacting Globus Medical.

**STERILIZATION**

These implants are ONLY available sterile. The instruments used with these devices may be available sterile or nonsterile.

Sterile implants and instruments are sterilized by gamma radiation, validated to ensure a Sterility Assurance Level (SAL) of $10^{-6}$. Sterile products are packaged in a heat sealed, double foil pouch. The expiration date is provided in the package label. These products are considered sterile unless the packaging has been opened or damaged.

Nonsterile instruments have been validated to ensure an SAL of $10^{-6}$. The use of a wrap is recommended, per the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI) ST79, *Comprehensive Guide to Steam Sterilization and Sterility Assurance in Health Care Facilities*. It is the end user's responsibility to use only sterilizers and accessories (such as sterilization wraps, sterilization pouches, chemical indicators, biological indicators, and sterilization cassettes) that are designed for the selected sterilization cycle specifications (time and temperature).

When using a rigid sterilization container, the following must be taken into consideration for proper sterilization of Globus devices and loaded graphic cases:

- Recommended sterilization parameters are listed in the table below.
- Only rigid sterilization containers for use with pre-vacuum steam sterilization may be used.
- When selecting a rigid sterilization container, it must have a minimum filter area of 176 $in^2$ total, or a minimum of four (4) 7.5in diameter filters.
- No more than one (1) loaded graphic case or its contents can be placed directly into a rigid sterilization container.
- Stand-alone modules/racks or single devices must be placed, without stacking, in a container basket to ensure optimal ventilation.
- The rigid sterilization container manufacturer's instructions for use are to be followed; if questions arise, contact the manufacturer of the specific container for guidance.
- Refer to AAMI ST79 for additional information concerning the use of rigid sterilization containers.

For implants and instruments provided NONSTERILE, sterilization is recommended (wrapped or containerized) as follows:

| Method | Cycle Type | Temperature | Exposure Time | Drying Time |
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| Steam | Pre-vacuum | 132°C (270°F) | 4 minutes | 30 minutes |
| Steam | Pre-vacuum | 134°C (273°F) | 3 minutes | 30 minutes |

*These parameters are validated to sterilize only this device. If other products are added to the sterilizer, the recommended parameters are not valid and new cycle parameters must be established by the user. The sterilizer must be properly installed, maintained, and calibrated. Ongoing testing must be performed to confirm inactivation of all forms of viable microorganisms.*