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Company Announcements Office
Australian Securities Exchange

French Ministry of Health issues guidance requiring disinfection of endocavitary ultrasound probes

Nanosonics (ASX: NAN) advises that the French Ministry of Health has released updated guidance for the appropriate disinfection of endocavitary ultrasound probes.

The recommendations were developed by a multidisciplinary group of experts, led by the President of the SF2H (French Society of Hospital Hygiene) and are presented as a 9-part compendium available on the Ministry's website <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/soins-et-maladies/qualite-des-soins-et-pratiques/securite/article/prevention-des-risques-d-infection-associes-a-l-utilisation-des-sondes-d>.

The recommendations included a systematic review of existing guidelines from the UK, Switzerland, ECMUS, ESR, WFUMB, Australia and the US, in addition to published literature.

In contrast to prior Ministry of Health statements, the recommendations now require that endocavitary ultrasound probes undergo intermediate level disinfection even if a sheath is used.

The term "intermediate-level disinfection" in France is functionally equivalent to high level disinfection in other parts of the world and refers to processes that are bactericidal, mycobactericidal, virucidal, and fungicidal.

The recommendations also discuss the benefits of automated disinfection as being standardised, reproducible, traceable and time-efficient.

The Ministry of Health states "It is now up to healthcare professionals and institutions to take ownership of these data sheets, implement them, and adapt their internal risk management policy accordingly to guarantee the highest level of patient protection."

"This new guidance from the French Ministry of Health is the latest in a growing number of European guidelines requiring the appropriate level of disinfection for ultrasound probes and further supports our growth plans in the European region" said Michael Kavanagh, Nanosonics' Chief Executive Officer and President. "Our latest trophon®2 technology is now available in France delivering the highest standard of automated ultrasound probe disinfection. Indeed in France, trophon meets the requirements of both intermediate level disinfection and high level disinfection as it is additionally sporicidal, thus delivering the highest level of patient protection".

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