## High protection thermal body wrap

Mediwrap Baby is a single use thermal wrap for babies and infants. It is thermally retentive and prevents convective, evaporative, conductive and radiant heat loss. It was developed in co-operation with the Essex Ambulance Service NHS Trust and is used by neonatal and paediatric retrieval teams for transfers. It is also in use in operating theatres for caesareans or neonatal or paediatric surgery, in maternity units and by midwives making home deliveries.

The Babywrap is highly absorbent and waterproof and can be cut allowing speedy and easy access to any part of the body. It is ideal for newborn babies or infants needing to be kept warm during transfers. The wrap has no fasteners or straps for ease of use and is used entirely on its own, needing no blanket or cover. It will not lint or disintegrate when wet and can be used on wet babies without fear of adhesion.

Ideally sized for babies and small infants, Mediwrap Baby has a built in hood to enable the baby to have its head and body completely enveloped, yet leaving the face clear.

**For more information contact Mediwrap on 01702 291878 or www.mediwrap.com**

## Reducing the risk of bacterial infection

A new disposable expiration valve for the Draeger Medical Evita family of ventilators (Evita 2, Evita 2 dura, Evita 4 and EvitaXL) provides efficient and safer critical care ventilation and helps to reduce the risk of bacterial infection.

The number of multiresistant pathogens in hospitals is increasing steadily, and nosocomial infection can prolong a hospital stay and have serious consequences for vulnerable babies. The disposable valve enables caregivers to ensure hygienic standards, since the valve can be replaced

and discarded for each new patient. The expiration valve can be used regardless of the kind of illness or therapy. In addition, the valve supports spontaneous breathing in the same way as the existing and well-known re-usable expiration valves.

The plug-and-play principle of the expiration valve makes it easy to install and remove. As a result, it is no longer necessary to assemble the sterilized individual components, and operation of the valve is intuitive.

**The expiration valve is now available for sale through Draeger Medical subsidiaries and dealers.**

## Preventing cross infection

The latest weapon in the ongoing battle to prevent cross infection in medical and paramedical environments has just been unveiled.

Originally developed to prevent the spread of 'super bugs' in hospitals, Sterinis is a new, high-tech device that destroys infectious agents by attacking them with tiny particles of disinfectant in a dry mist.

Developed in Toulouse, France, with the aid of cutting edge technological know-how from local aerospace industries, this programmable device is able to disinfect any surface and neutralise infection black spots, even those that are impossible to reach by hand.

The transportable nature of Sterinis means it can be deployed easily to provide continuous protection against cross infection in a variety of environments.

**For more information contact BES Decon, a division of BES Rehab Ltd on 0845 1300 237.**


## Novel method of recording temperature

Actamed Ltd is introducing an innovative thermometer, the TemporalScanner™, to UK hospitals. The new thermometer, which measures temperature at the temporal artery, where it runs across the forehead, is a 21st century advance on what was sound medical practice even 2,000 years ago.

The TemporalScanner uses an advanced infrared system, which provides an even more accurate temperature reading than a standard clinical thermometer. Trials of the new instrument at the Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School have proven that the temporal artery thermometer is more accurate than ear thermometry[1]. The method of scanning the forehead is both comfortable and non-invasive for the patient, making it especially practical for infants. In addition the clinician can safely use the TemporalScanner either with or without covers, making it a very cost-effective method for temperature assessment within the hospital.

**For further information about temporal artery thermometry, or the TemporalScanner, contact Actamed on 01924 200550, or e-mail sales@actamed.co.uk.**

### Reference

1. **Greenes D. S., Fleisher G. R.** Division of Emergency Medicine, Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. Accuracy of a non-invasive temporal artery thermometer for use in infants. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med* 2001; **155**(3): 376-81.


## Community Health Professionals' Information Guide

This comprehensive publication explores the medical and emotional stages that premature or sick babies and their families experience and provides a wide range of background information to support community health professionals in their work. The guide addresses a number of crucial issues within the National Service Framework, particularly with regard to parenting and care for the most vulnerable.

It has been produced by BLISS following a survey by Pampers which revealed a lack of training for community health professionals regarding premature or sick newborn babies and has been financially supported by Pampers and the Department of Health.

Copies of the guide have been mailed to all members of the Community Practitioners' and Health Visitors' Association, neonatal units and National Childbirth Trust professionals.

**For more information contact BLISS on 0878 244 8506 or www.bliss.org.uk**

## New healthcare professional section on the SMA website

The SMA website www.smanutrition.co.uk was launched in October 2002 and contains information on current research, monthly articles written by leading experts, diary dates, detailed product information and free educational materials, which can be used with parents and can be ordered on-line.

A new section is dedicated to giving healthcare professionals up-to-date information on infant and toddler nutrition at the touch of a button.

**Anyone with a query on infant and toddler nutrition can consult the common nutritional problems section or send a personalised question via email to SMA Careline.**

## Glucose measurement: Everything you ever wanted to know

HemoCue has published an essential reference document for all healthcare professionals involved in diabetes management. Addressing the need for relevant, up-to-date information, "Measuring blood glucose: Practices, pitfalls and priorities" is a comprehensive reference document covering all aspects of blood glucose measurement.

The alarming rise of diabetes, together with increasing demands for near patient testing has created an environment where vast numbers of glucose measurements are performed in a variety of healthcare or home situations by a range of medical professionals. However, the determination of precise, accurate results is far from straightforward and there are many factors that affect the validity of the measurement.

Recognising the need for concise, easily accessible information, HemoCue has summarised the key information in this monograph. Co-operating with opinion leaders throughout the world it has produced an easy to read, up to date document covering all aspects of glucose measurement.

**The new monograph is available free of charge from HemoCue Ltd. Simply call 01246 292955 for a copy or visit www.hemocue.co.uk.**

## First infant reflux formula to contain LCPs


Gastro-oesophageal reflux is a common problem in infants and thickened feeds are one of the most effective first-line therapies. Enfamil AR, produced by Mead Johnson Nutritionals, is a nutritionally complete pre-thickened formula which contains a special patented rice starch thickener for optimum viscosity and ease of use. It is fluid in the bottle and only thickens once inside the infant's stomach on contact with gastric acid. This makes Enfamil AR easy to feed as it flows through a standard teat unlike separate thickeners added to the baby's routine formula which thicken in the bottle and can clog the teat making feeding difficult.

Enfamil AR, now contains Lipil a unique blend of the long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids, docosahexaenoic acid and arachidonic acid, in similar quantities to those found naturally in breast milk. Clinical trials show that babies fed Lipil achieve similar visual acuity to breast-fed babies[1] and demonstrate increased mental development at 18 months (e.g. memory and problem solving) compared with babies fed unsupplemented formula[2].

### Reference

1. **Birch et al.** Visual acuity and the essentiality of DHA and AA in the diet of term infants. *Pediatric Research* 1998; **44**(2):201-09.
2. **Birch et al.** A randomised controlled trial of early dietary supply of long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids and mental development in term infants. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* 2000; **42**: 174-81.