

# User evaluation on new SpeediCath concept:

## SpeediCath Compact

- a new innovative intermittent catheter concept tailor made for women

### Background

Looking back, female intermittent coated catheters have a history of being about 20 cm long. This standard length is defined in product standards although it is well known that the female urethra is no longer than approx. 3-5 cm. If the women catheterises on the toilet, the existing catheters are fairly long which makes it difficult to insert and point the catheter downwards without the catheter touching the toilet seat, thereby breaking the sterile chain and increasing the risk of contamination.

The idea behind the **SpeediCath Compact** concept was to develop a product especially targeted at female users in the community. The catheter is about 1/3 of a standard catheter and it is therefore much easier for the women to handle while sitting on the toilet. Furthermore, it does not fill up much space in a bag, nor when stored or disposed.

### Test

The user evaluation was designed to test the overall acceptance of the product and ease of use. The aim of the test was to evaluate to what degree the group found **SpeediCath Compact** easy to handle, easy to insert, handy, - and if they wanted to use the catheter in the future.

24 women, frequent catheter users were included. Each subject was to evaluate 30 products. The subjects were recruited through Coloplast's User Database in January and February 2003, and the test was running in March and April 2003.

The subjects received one box with 30 **SpeediCath Compact** catheters each. All subjects had to answer four questionnaires. One questionnaire to assure compliance with in- and exclusion criteria, one for listing baseline characteristics, another to evaluate the performance of **SpeediCath Compact** and finally, a questionnaire concerning tendency of future use and possible improvements.

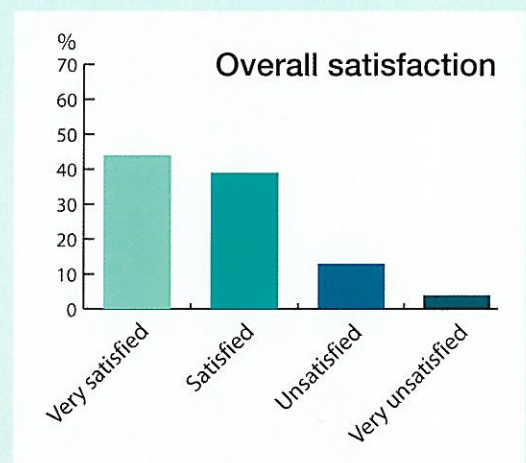
### Results

83% were very satisfied or satisfied with **SpeediCath Compact** when making the overall rating of the catheter. 88% answered they would consider using the catheter in the future.

63% felt that the catheter length was suitable and nine subjects (37%) felt that the catheter was too short. 75% found the procedure pulling the two tubes apart very easy or easy. 25% found the procedure difficult on a 4-point scale going from very easy to very difficult, mostly due to impaired hand function.

All 24 subjects (100%) found the lubrication satisfying during insertion of the catheter even though 17% experienced smaller problems during insertion. Furthermore 96% found the length of the handle suitable.

Handling during withdrawal was rated very easy/easy by 92%. With regard to using the **SpeediCath Compact** when not in the usual surroundings, 21 subjects (87%) answered that it was very easy/easy to handle. Three subjects did not answer this question.



### Conclusion and Discussion

We conclude that **SpeediCath Compact** being an entirely new and different catheter concept was received very positively and was found easy to handle by the majority of test participants.

Many commented on the handy size of the product in general, the very useful non touch grip and the ease of use due to the length. An explanation for the feeling that some had of the catheter being too short could be that the subjects need a period of adaptation to the new and smaller concept before they feel confident with the length.



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