

All catheter materials available have both advantages and disadvantages and the choice of catheter material is often application dependent. While both polyurethane and silicone are biocompatible and are good choices for long-term catheterization, a generalization of advantages and disadvantages as shown below may be helpful in determining which catheter material is most appropriate for your particular application. In cases where compounds show incompatibility with both polyurethane and silicone, the use of less favorable catheter materials such as polyethylene, Teflon® and PVC may be necessary.

CATHETER MATERIALS COMPARISON

| Characteristics | Silicone | PolyUrethane | PolyEthylene | Teflon/PTFE |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| ID Ratio | Thicker Wall/ID Smaller | Thinner Wall/ID Larger | Thicker Wall | Thicker Wall |
| Biocompatibility | Excellent | Excellent | Fair | Fair |
| Compatibility | Non-Reactive | Non-Reactive | Non-Reactive | Non-Reactive |
| Heat Sensitivity | Excellent | Poor | Excellent | Excellent |
| Stiffness | Soft | Softens in body | Stiff | Stiff |
| Ease of Insertion | More Difficult | Moderately Easy | Easy | Easy |
| Ease of Modifying | Easy | Fair | Poor | Difficult |
| Memory | Excellent | Poor | Poor | Poor |
| Tensile Strength | Fair | Excellent | Excellent | Excellent |
| Flexibility | Excellent | Moderate | Poor-Rigid | Poor-Rigid |
| Coefficient of Friction | Fair | Excellent | Good | Excellent |
| Coating Option | More Difficult | Hydromer | n/a | n/a |
| Sterilization Method | Autoclave or EtO | EtO | Autoclave or EtO | Autoclave or EtO |

Ordering Information

1-847-674-7131 (U.S.A.)

Catheter tubing can be supplied on 25 foot spools non-sterile (BC series) or in sterile cut lengths (CNC series). Sterile cut lengths are available with or without modifications as shown on page 14. To assist you with your catheter dimension choice, you will find a catheter specification and conversion chart on page 19.

Examples: The catalog number BC - 3P indicates a 25'/7.6m spool of 3 French polyurethane tubing, non-sterile. The catalog number BC - 5S indicates a 25'/7.6m spool of 5 French silicone tubing.

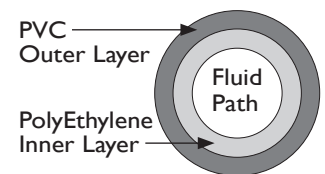
Examples: To order cut lengths use prefix CNC. The catalog number CNC-2S indicates a sterile cut length of 2 French silicone tubing and CNC-1P indicates a sterile length of 1 French polyurethane.

Learn more about our custom, species and site specific catheters on pages 20-14 or call for information, prototypes, or samples.

Co-Extruded

Co-extruded tubing is extruded with PE on the inside lumen for compound compatibility and PVC on the outside for durability. It is available in 2 sizes. Call for details.

External Infusion Tubing



the ideal catheter MATERIAL

- high tensile strength
- soft and pliable
- inherently chemical resistant
- biocompatible
- meet flow requirements while maintaining a minimally invasive circumference or French profile.

That is a lot to ask of one material !