



BEFORE USING PRODUCT, READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

IMPORTANT

This booklet is designed to assist in using the following system: NILE™ Alternative Fixation. It is not a reference for surgical techniques.

CAUTION: Federal law (USA) restricts this device to sale and use by, or on the order of, a physician.

DESCRIPTION

The Nile Alternative Fixation System implants are comprised of bands, clamps and set screws designed to attach to titanium or cobalt chrome rods. The band is manufactured from polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and the clamps and set screws are made from titanium alloy in accordance with ASTM F136. Once the bands are secured the stainless steel tips are detached and are not intended to be implanted.

INDICATIONS

The NILE Alternative Fixation Spinal System is a temporary implant for use in orthopedic surgery. The system is intended to provide temporary stabilization as a bone anchor during the development of solid bony fusion and aid in the repair of bone fractures.

The indications for use include the following applications:

1. Spinal trauma surgery, used in sublamina, interspinous, or facet wiring techniques;
 2. Spinal reconstructive surgery, incorporated into constructs for the purpose of correction of spinal deformities such as adult scoliosis, kyphosis, and spondylolisthesis;
 3. Spinal degenerative surgery, as an adjunct to spinal fusions.
- The NILE Alternative Fixation Spinal System may also be used in conjunction with other medical implants made of similar metals whenever 'wiring' may help secure the attachment of other implants.

CLEANING/REPROCESSING OF K2M SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

Unless specifically labeled as STERILE, K2M surgical instruments are supplied non-sterile. While it is recommended that the following steps are included in a decontamination/reprocessing protocol the end-user bears the ultimate responsibility for the cleanliness of the device. These instructions are not intended for K2M implants or disposable surgical instruments.

Presoak the instruments with an enzymatic solution for a minimum of 5 minutes. Following the presoak the instruments should be wiped or scrubbed using a brush, cloth or sponge that does not mar the surface of the instrument. Remove soil from cannulated parts with a nylon bristle brush or appropriately sized guide wire. Rinse parts under water for one minute. Repeat the process until no visible debris remains. Clean K2M surgical instruments with an appropriate brush, cloth or sponge and low foaming, pH neutral detergent solution. The use of abrasive compounds or excessively acidic or alkaline solutions may cause damage to the instruments and should be avoided. Rinse parts under warm or hot flowing water for a minimum of 1 minute including direct contact with all surfaces for at least 10 seconds. Repeat rinsing step using distilled, reverse osmosis or deionized water. Automatic cleaning may be used in addition to manual cleaning. Do not ultrasonically clean torque limiting handles.

STERILIZATION

Non-Sterile Devices

Packaged components are packaged individually in sealed poly bags. **Unless specifically labeled sterile, the implants and instruments are supplied NONSTERILE and MUST be sterilized prior to use.** Recommended sterilization methods include steam autoclaving after removal of all protective packaging and labeling. The following steam autoclave cycles were validated to an SAL of 10⁻⁶ using the biological indicator (BI) overkill method however sterilization should be in accordance with the sterilizer manufacturer's instructions and the institution's procedures for assuring sterility.

	Autoclave Cycle	Temperature	Time	Drying Time
USA	Prevacuum	270°F (132°C)	4 Minutes	30 Minutes
Outside USA	Prevacuum	273°F (134°C)	3 Minutes	30 Minutes

Usage of an FDA cleared wrap to ensure that the device is actually sterile prior to implantation is recommended.

Use caution during sterilization and storage. Do not allow contact with metal or other hard objects that could damage the finish or prevent proper use. (See Preoperative Warnings and Precautions).

NOTE: Instruments that may have been exposed to Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) should be treated according to the hospital's prion decontamination protocol. K2M recommends contacting the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization for the most recent information on CJD transmission and deactivation.

Sterile Devices

Components labeled as STERILE are gamma irradiated.

CAUTION: Do not use if package is damaged. If the tamper proof seals or sterile packaging appear to be compromised or damaged, return the package and its contents to K2M.

CAUTION: The implants are intended for single use only. Do not attempt to clean or resterilize the implants. Reprocessing of single use devices may introduce risks associated with guaranteeing sterility assurance.

STORAGE

Store sterile packages in a well-ventilated area that provides protection from dust, insects, moisture, and vermin.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

(For complete instructions refer to the appropriate surgical technique provided by your local K2M sales representative.)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. K2M spinal systems are contraindicated in the presence of infection, pregnancy, metabolic disorders of calcified tissues, grossly distorted anatomy, inadequate tissue coverage, drug/alcohol abuse, mental illness, general neurological conditions, immunosuppressive disorders, patients with known

**NILE™
ALTERNATIVE FIXATION SYSTEM**

PI049-2CA-00 Rev 0



This key contains all symbols used by K2M. Only symbols within the IFU text and on device label apply to the system listed in "IMPORTANT" section of the IFU.

SYMBOL KEY

	Manufacturer		Consult Instructions For Use
	Authorized EU Representative		Caution: Consult Accompanying Documentation
	Lot Number		Non-sterile
	Catalog Number		Do Not Reuse
	Use By Date		CE Mark and Identification Number 2797
	Sterile		Sterilized using Irradiation
	Sterilized using Ethylene Oxide		Do Not Re-Sterilize
	Do Not Use If Package Is Damaged		Temperature Limit
	Keep Dry		Keep Away from Sunlight
	Federal (U.S.) Law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician		



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ENGLISH

**NILE™
ALTERNATIVE
FIXATION SYSTEM**

PI049-2CA-00 Rev 0

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CE
2797



7. Implanting metals and alloys in the human body subjects them to a constantly changing environment of salts, acids and alkalis which can cause corrosion. Putting dissimilar metals (e.g. titanium and stainless steel) in contact with each other can accelerate the corrosion process which in turn may enhance fatigue fractures of implants. Thus every effort should be made to use compatible metals and alloys. Fretting or wear at the interface between components of a device may also accelerate the corrosion process and may lead to the generation of wear debris which has been associated with localized inflammatory response.
8. The K2M spinal implants are intended to provide temporary stabilization. If an implant remains implanted after complete healing it can actually increase the risk of refracture in an active individual. The surgeon should weigh the risks versus the benefits when deciding whether to remove the implant.
9. This device has not been evaluated for safety and compatibility in the MR environment. The device has not been tested for heating, migration or imaging artifacts in the MR environment.

PREOPERATIVE

1. Patient conditions and/or predispositions such as those previously addressed in Contraindications and Warnings and Precautions should be avoided.
2. Preoperative testing (simple bend and where necessary, stretch testing) should identify degree of correction possible without neurological damage and levels to be spanned using techniques similar to other spinal fusion procedures.
3. Use care in handling and storage of the implants. Prior to surgery components should be inspected for any evidence of damage or corrosion.
4. An adequate inventory of implant sizes should be available at the time of the surgery.
5. All components should be cleaned and sterilized before use.
6. Check expiration date and integrity of sterile packaging.

OPERATIVE

1. The primary goal of this surgery is to arthrodesis selected vertebrae. Adequate exposure, bony preparation and grafting are essential to achieving this result.
2. Rods may be prebent to the degree of correction determined by preoperative testing however reverse bends should be avoided.
3. The use of two rods and crosslinking the rods will provide a more rigid construct.
4. The placement of implants should be checked radiographically prior to assembly of the rod construct.
5. Care should be taken when positioning the implants to avoid neurological damage.
6. Use of bone cement will make removal of the implants difficult and should be avoided.

POSTOPERATIVE

1. Adequately instruct the patient. Postoperative care and the patient's ability and willingness to follow instructions are two of the most important aspects of successful healing.
2. Internal fixation devices are load sharing devices which maintain alignment until healing occurs. If healing is delayed or does not occur the implant could eventually break, bend or loosen. Loads produced by load bearing and activity levels will impact the longevity of the implant.
3. Implants can loosen, fracture, corrode, migrate, cause pain, or stress shield bone even after a bone has healed. If an implant remains implanted after complete healing, it can actually increase the risk of refracture in an active individual. The surgeon should weigh the risks versus benefits when deciding whether to remove the implant. Implant removal should be followed by adequate postoperative management to avoid refracture.
4. Periodic X-rays for at least the first year postoperatively are recommended for close comparison with postoperative conditions to detect any evidence of changes in position, nonunion, loosening, and bending or cracking of components. With evidence of these conditions, patients should be closely observed, the possibilities of further deterioration evaluated, and the benefits of reduced activity and/or early revision considered.
5. Surgical implants must never be reused. An explanted implant should never be reimplanted. Even though the device appears undamaged, it may have small imperfections and internal stress patterns which may lead to early breakage.

