

Permission to print:	Yes
Near Miss or Accident	Near Miss
Type of incident:	Management
Catagory	Air in circuit
Knowledge Error	No
Protocol issue	No
Rule Error	Yes
Skill Error	No
Team Issue	
Violation	
Chance event:	No
Description:	<p>ECMO circuit was de-aired kept recirculating while cannula's were being inserted into the patient. An air pocket was noted on the arterial side of the oxygenator [Medos] just above the arterial line exit from oxygenator. Pump was stopped all the taps were tightened, circuit was de-aired and left recirculating. After 20 minutes waiting to go on ECMO a pocket of air was again seen at the same spot. Circuit was stopped and de-aired again with literally opening and closing all the taps.</p> <p>Still waiting to go on ECMO air pocket was again seen at the same spot. All taps were checked for cracks and tightened again. Additionally temperature probe port was tightened. After that no air was seen in the oxygenator.</p>
Contributing factors:	Possible temperature probe was not tight enough on the oxygenator.
Corrective action:	De-aired the circuit.
Preventative action plan:	Check temperature probe is tightened addition to other ports.
Manufacturer advised:	No
Discussed with team:	Yes
Ext Authority Advised	No
Patient outcome variance f	Nil