



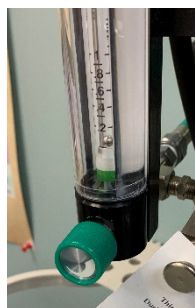
Care of flowmeter, knob, and needle valve

Flowmeters have a knob that is used to open a valve to allow a gas to move through it and into the rest of the anesthesia machine. The needle valve under the knob can leak due to trauma, excessive use, and becoming misaligned from the knob. Vetamac recommends these steps to minimize leaks and extra wear on the flowmeter and its parts.

1. Avoid trauma to any parts of the flowmeter
 - a. Anesthesia machine tipped over
 - b. Colliding the flowmeter with walls, countertops, surgery tables, etc.
2. Avoid overtightening the knob when turning flowmeter off
 - a. Overtightening is turning knob further after the indicator has reached zero or the bottom of the flowmeter tube
 - b. Helpful Tip: use one finger when turning off flowmeter to prevent overtightening
 - c. Turning knob off too far will result in the knob and needle valve no longer aligning in the proper "off" position
3. Use **medical** grade oxygen/gas source
 - a. This can prevent any dirt or debris from entering the flowmeter and anesthesia machine
4. Always turn flowmeter off after use
 - a. A sudden burst of pressure when gas source is turned on can break the glass tube inside flowmeter
 - i. A flowmeter window cover is always recommended to protect glass tube from external trauma
 - b. If gas source is left on and the flowmeter is on, there will be unnecessary gas usage/loss

What if my needle valve is leaking?

Any leak in the flowmeter needle valve will result in excess gas loss. Vetamac can often repair a needle valve if leaking but continued leaking will require a new valve/knob assembly. Please contact your Vetamac service technician for questions or assistance with all your anesthesia needs!



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