

Nasco Life/form® LF01121 Advanced IV Arm Troubleshooting Tips

Here are some tips to try and determine if your Nasco *Life/form*® IV Advanced Arm trainer is functioning properly. Please refer to the product manual for detailed information and additional troubleshooting tips.

Problem: Cannot get blood to flow or flashback.

If you are unable to get blood flow through your IV Arm, there is most likely a restriction somewhere within the system. Restrictions can be caused by air bubbles, kinks (either in the veins or supply and drain tubing), or dried blood within the system.

Check for kinks on the supply and drain IV bags: If a clamp has been located in one spot of the tube for a long period of time, the tube can become kinked in the closed position even when the clamp is open. Massage the tube where the clamps have been to open the tubing again. Change positions of clamps often to keep this from recurring.

Check vein tubing for kinks: If you are only have problems after putting the skin on, perhaps the vein rolled out of the track or there may also be a slight kink in the tubing. This is most likely in the underside of the fingers. Flexing the fingers will sometimes work out the kink. Try massaging the area of the arm you are having problems with (thumb and fingers) to relocate the vein back within the track of the arm core. Also, make sure you haven't pulled the skin on too tight to cause a restriction. Skins should be loose fitting, especially around the thumb and finger areas. Are you using enough lubrication to help move the veins back into place?

Check for air bubbles: Make sure you purge the arm of air bubbles. Gradually "flush" the system with synthetic blood by slowly opening the supply clamp. Allow some blood to pass through the system until the air bubbles have been eliminated in the drain bag. Close the clamp on the supply bag and then turn the arm over so it is palm up. Slowly open the clamp to allow some blood to pass through and to remove any remaining air that is trapped in the system.

Dried blood left in veins from previous uses: If these are veins that have been used before, you could try running a couple of bags of clear warm water through them. There may be some sediment from previous uses lodged within the veins/tubing.

Other situations to consider: Is the supply bag hung at the appropriate height according to the instruction manual? Hanging the supply bags "slightly" higher for the arms that are not producing enough pressure can create just enough gravity on the fluid to facilitate flow. Make sure receiving (drain) bag is located at a lower level than the arm.

Are the veins/tubes connected to the manifold correctly? Check for correct positions in the instruction manual for LF01122 Advanced IV Arm Skin and Vein Replacement Kit.

If you continue to have difficulties, please contact our customer service department (1-800-558-9595) and they can direct you to our technical department for assistance if necessary.

Sincerely,

Nasco Plastics Repair Department