Channel and Blake Drains Do Not Improve Drainage of Shed Mediastinal Blood vs. Conventional Chest Tubes.

- Clinical trials directly comparing channel drains with conventional chest drains have consistently shown that channel drains do not improve (are non-inferior) the evacuation of post-surgical blood compared to conventional chest tubes.\(^1,2,3\)
- It was also noted that Blake drains were not superior to conventional drains when considering pain at removal.\(^4\)
- Blake drains and Channel drains are just as prone to clogging as conventional chest tubes.\(^4,5\)

The “Achilles heel” of Channel/Blake drains is section B, the transition point, where there are 4 tiny channels that are highly prone to clogging.

- Each of these tiny channels are made up of less than a quarter of the internal tube diameter and are easily clogged with thrombus which can shut off the evacuation of blood from the chest.
**SOLUTION:** The PleuraFlow® Active Clearance Technology® System proactively clears chest tubes of clots and prevents the retention of retained blood and fluids in the chest cavity.

- Smoother chest tube with the PleuraFlow ACT System with FlowGlide® may reduce patient pain at removal.
- The PleuraFlow ACT System minimizes chest tube occlusion and is quicker and easier to manage than conventional chest tubes.⁶
- Multiple published peer-reviewed studies show data that would constitute Class I, Level B evidence demonstrating superiority of active clearance over conventional chest tube drainage.⁶,⁷,⁸

From the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (JTCVS):*

- Patients treated with the PleuraFlow® ACT® System experienced:
  - **43% reduction** in Retained Blood complications such as bloody pleural and pericardial effusions⁷
  - **33% reduction** in post-operative atrial fibrillation (POAF)⁷

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For more information about the PleuraFlow ACT System, please contact ClearFlow Customer Service: 1-714-916-5007, or visit www.clearflow.com/education

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