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# Instructions for Use

## DENS ACCESS

This instruction for use is not intended for distribution in the USA.

# Instructions for Use

## DENS ACCESS

Please read these instructions for use, the Synthes brochure "Important Information" and the corresponding surgical techniques carefully before use. Ensure that you are familiar with the appropriate surgical technique.

## Material

Material: Standard:  
TAN ISO 5832-11

## Intended use

The DENS ACCESS System uses an anterior lag screw compression technique for the fixation of dens and transverse fractures.

## Indications

Indication for DENS ACCESS anterior lag screw compression technique is limited to dens fractures Type II and shallow Type III as proposed by Anderson and D'Alonzo (1974).

## Contraindications

In oblique flexion fractures, the inferior fragment of the C2 vertebral body is too small for adequate screw fixation, and the fracture line prevents adequate compression across the fracture. Technically it is difficult or impossible to perform the procedure in short-necked patients, obese patients, patients with limited motion of the cervical spine, and in patients with pronounced kyphosis of the cervical spine.

Cervical spine stenosis because of the danger of cord injury associated with hyperextension of the neck.

## Side effects

As with all major surgical procedures, risks, side effects and adverse events can occur. While many possible reactions may occur, some of the most common may include:

Problems resulting from anesthesia and patient positioning (e.g. nausea, vomiting, dental injuries, neurological impairments, etc.), thrombosis, embolism, infection, excessive bleeding, iatrogenic neural and vascular injury, damage to soft tissues incl. swelling, abnormal scar formation, functional impairment of the musculoskeletal system, Sudeck's disease, allergy/hypersensitivity reactions, side effects associated with implant or hardware prominence, malunion, non-union, ongoing pain; damage to adjacent bones, discs, or soft tissue, dural tear or spinal fluid leak; spinal cord compression and/or contusion, partial displacement of the graft, vertebral angulation.

## Single-use device



Do not re-use

Products intended for single-use must not be re-used.

Re-use or reprocessing (e.g. cleaning and resterilization) may compromise the structural integrity of the device and/or lead to device failure which may result in patient injury, illness or death.

Furthermore, reuse or reprocessing of single-use devices may create a risk of contamination e.g. due to the transmission of infectious material from one patient to another. This could result in injury or death of the patient or user.

Contaminated implants must not be reprocessed. Any Synthes implant that has been contaminated by blood, tissue, and/or bodily fluids/matter should never be used again and should be handled according to hospital protocol. Even though they may appear undamaged, the implants may have small defects and internal stress patterns that may cause material fatigue.

## Precautions

The general risks associated with surgery are not described in these instructions for use. For more information, please refer to the Synthes brochure "Important Information".

## Warnings

It is strongly advised that DENS ACCESS is implanted only by operating surgeons who are familiar with the general problems of spinal surgery and who are able to master the product-specific surgical techniques. Implantation is to take place with the instructions for the recommended surgical procedure. The surgeon is responsible for ensuring that the operation is carried out properly.

The manufacturer is not responsible for any complications arising from incorrect diagnosis, choice of incorrect implant, incorrectly combined implant components and/or operating techniques, the limitations of treatment methods, or inadequate asepsis.

## Combination of medical devices

Synthes has not tested compatibility with devices provided by other manufacturers and assumes no liability in such instances.

## Magnetic Resonance environment

MR Conditional:

Non-clinical testing of the worst-case scenario has demonstrated that the implants of the DENS ACCESS system are MR conditional. These articles can be scanned safely under the following conditions:

- Static magnetic field of 1.5 Tesla and 3.0 Tesla.
- Spatial gradient field of 300 mT/cm (3000 Gauss/cm).
- Maximum whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg for 15 minutes of scanning.

Based on non-clinical testing, the DENS ACCESS implant will produce a temperature rise not greater than 4.3°C at a maximum whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg, as assessed by calorimetry for 15 minutes of MR scanning in a 1.5 Tesla and 3.0 Tesla MR scanner.

MR Imaging quality may be compromised if the area of interest is in the exact same area or relatively close to the position of the DENS ACCESS device.

## Treatment before device is used

Synthes products supplied in a non-sterile condition must be cleaned and steam-sterilized prior to surgical use. Prior to cleaning, remove all original packaging. Prior to steam-sterilization, place the product in an approved wrap or container. Follow the cleaning and sterilization instruction given by the Synthes brochure "Important Information".

## Processing/reprocessing of the device

Detailed instructions for processing implants and reprocessing reusable devices, instrument trays and cases are described in the Synthes brochure "Important Information". Assembly and disassembly instructions of instruments "Dismantling Multipart Instruments" can be downloaded from: <http://www.synthes.com/reprocessing>

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