

Brussels, 21 September 2023

European Chemical Agency (ECHA)

To whom it may concern

Submission of Evidence of the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care regarding the proposed PFAS restriction.

Sir!

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

the **European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (ESAIC)** represents over 100,000 anaesthesiologists and intensivists across Europe. Furthermore, we have a significant voice around the world in the field of perioperative medicine. Following several consultations with representatives of the medical device industry, we express our severe concern regarding the European PFAS restriction proposal.

We, as medical professionals having treated the majority of critical-ill Covid-19 patients in the past 2.5 years, are extremely alerted not to lose any diagnostics, treatments, and/or interventional tools for our patients. Patient safety and performance must not be compromised without proven clinical alternatives.

We congratulate you for extending the transitional periods of 5-12 years for selected products (e.g. implants, catheters). However, there is a long list of devices which are excluded from this extension.

ESAIC is more than happy to provide you with this list of clinical unreplaceable items, which would not be available anymore if European PFAS goes life. In addition, ESAIC would be honored to support and consult you in the process of transition.

Once again, please accept our sincere apologies on behalf of our patients in this matter.

Sincerely,

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Prof. Edoardo De Robertis President	Prof. Wolfgang Buhre Incoming President	Prof. Kai Zacharowski Past-President