



Food and Drug Administration  
9200 Corporate Boulevard  
Rockville MD 20850

FEB 10 1999

Mr. Roger Strube  
E & M Engineering, Inc.  
1705 Dabney Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Re: K984276  
Trade Name: Disposable Electrosurgery Grounding Pad  
Regulatory Class: II  
Product Code: GEI  
Dated: November 24, 1998  
Received: November 30, 1998

Dear Mr. Strube:

We have reviewed your Section 510(k) notification of intent to market the device referenced above and we have determined the device is substantially equivalent (for the indications for use stated in the enclosure) to devices marketed in interstate commerce prior to May 28, 1976, the enactment date of the Medical Device Amendments, or to devices that have been reclassified in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act). You may, therefore, market the device, subject to the general controls provisions of the Act. The general controls provisions of the Act include requirements for annual registration, listing of devices, good manufacturing practice, labeling, and prohibitions against misbranding and adulteration.

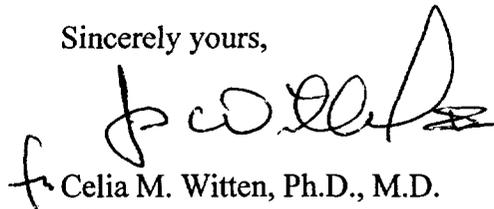
If your device is classified (see above) into either class II (Special Controls) or class III (Premarket Approval), it may be subject to such additional controls. Existing major regulations affecting your device can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Parts 800 to 895. A substantially equivalent determination assumes compliance with the current Good Manufacturing Practice requirement, as set forth in the Quality System Regulation (QS) for Medical Devices: General regulation (21 CFR Part 820) and that, through periodic (QS) inspections, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will verify such assumptions. Failure to comply with the GMP regulation may result in regulatory action. In addition, FDA may publish further announcements concerning your device in the Federal Register. Please note: this response to your premarket notification submission does not affect any obligation you might have under sections 531 through 542 of the Act for devices under the Electronic Product Radiation Control provisions, or other Federal laws or regulations.

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This letter will allow you to begin marketing your device as described in your 510(k) premarket notification. The FDA finding of substantial equivalence of your device to a legally marketed predicate device results in a classification for your device and thus, permits your device to proceed to the market.

If you desire specific advice for your device on our labeling regulation (21 CFR Part 801 and additionally 809.10 for in vitro diagnostic devices), please contact the Office of Compliance at (301) 594-4595. Additionally, for questions on the promotion and advertising of your device, please contact the Office of Compliance at (301) 594-4639. Also, please note the regulation entitled, "Misbranding by reference to premarket notification" (21 CFR 807.97). Other general information on your responsibilities under the Act may be obtained from the Division of Small Manufacturers Assistance at its toll-free number (800) 638-2041 or (301) 443-6597 or at its internet address "<http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/dsmamain.html>".

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. M. Witten', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Celia M. Witten, Ph.D., M.D.  
Director  
Division of General and  
Restorative Devices  
Office of Device Evaluation  
Center for Devices and  
Radiological Health

Enclosure

510 (k) NUMBER (IF KNOWN):   K984276

DEVICE NAME : **DISPOSABLE ELECTROSURGERY GROUNDING PAD**

**INDICATIONS FOR USE:**

This grounding pad, also know as dispersive, neutral, or return electrode, is applied to the patient's skin during surgery to reliably conduct the required surgical R.F. current with minimal rise in skin temperature, thereby reducing the risk of electrosurgical effect or burns to the patient.

This device is used when electrosurgery generators and pencils with electrodes are needed during a surgical procedure. The dispersive electrode is large in area, compared to the active electrode on pencil, thus promoting low current density so burns to the patient do not happen.

The electrosurgical generator produces (radio frequency) R.F. current to high-density electrode known as the active electrode. The dispersive electrode reduces the current to low density and returns the current back to the generator. Again reducing the risk for burns to the skin of the patient.

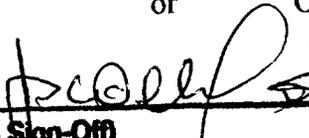
The grounding pad is coupled to the patient usually by direct contact with the skin, and may be used with semi-liquid or conductive gel. This is usually done with the disposable grounding pad.

Roger Strube

(PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE-CONTINUE ON ANOTHER PAGE IF NEEDED.)

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Concurrence of CDRH, Office of Device Evaluation (ODE)

Prescription Use   X   or Over-the-Counter-Use \_\_\_\_\_  
(per 21 CFR 801.109) (Optional Format 1-2-96)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Division Sign-Off)  
Division of General Restorative Devices  
510(k) Number \_\_\_\_\_

  K984276