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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 76, *Transfusion, infusion and injection, and blood processing equipment for medical and pharmaceutical use*.

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Introduction

The connection between a blood bag (as specified in ISO 3826-1, ISO 3826-3 and ISO 3826-4) and a transfusion set (ISO 1135-4 and ISO 1135-5) is provided by the bag port and transfusion set closure piercing device referred to in this document by the abbreviation 'spike'. The spike is a rigid structure with tightly defined dimensions whereas the blood bag port is of flexible material in order to accommodate the spike. Transfusion sets are compatible with a range of commercially available blood bags and vice versa. It is vitally important in setting up a blood transfusion that the force required to insert the spike into the port is not excessive. This can lead to difficulties in piercing the port septum, damage to the blood bag, leakage of its contents and injuries to bedside staff.