



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF EXTRACORPOREAL TECHNOLOGY
2209 DICKENS ROAD RICHMOND, VA 23230-2005

**Position Statement On EVLP Specialists And
Mechanical Circulatory Support Devices**

Mechanical Circulatory Support Committee

Chair: Mark Lucas, CCP
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The American Society of Extracorporeal Technology (AmSECT), the world's largest professional society of cardiovascular perfusionists, seeks to foster improved care, safety, and outcomes during the use of extracorporeal support devices.

Perfusionists are the only medical professionals whose scope of practice expressly includes the utilization of extracorporeal devices providing support in a variety of clinical circumstances, inside and outside of the operating room. Ex-Vivo solid organ extracorporeal membrane oxygenation devices for heart and lung transplantations are examples of the latest technologies in mechanical circulatory support devices.

Perfusionists are qualified through CAAHEP-accredited educational programs and certified by a standardized national exam provided by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion in mechanical circulatory support devices. It is AmSECT's position that optimal organ care and safety in the use of extracorporeal devices can only be obtained when a certified Perfusionist directly performs or supervises these procedures.

The use of such devices without the involvement of a properly trained cardiovascular Perfusionist will jeopardize safety and substantially increase the risk of injury. AmSECT strongly recommends that a Perfusionist qualified by formal education and possessing clinical expertise be directly involved in or supervise all applications of extracorporeal support technology.