

# Uterine Curette

## Description

A **Uterine Curette** is a **gynaecological surgical instrument** used for **scraping or debriding the lining of the uterus (endometrium)**. It is commonly used in procedures such as **dilation and curettage (D&C)** for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes. Uterine curettes are also utilized in **veterinary medicine** for reproductive treatments and uterine examinations in animals.

It may come in **sharp or blunt designs**, and can be **flexible or rigid**, depending on the procedure and patient.

## Specification

- **Type:** Sharp or Blunt Curette
- **Material:** Surgical-grade stainless steel
- **Length:** Typically 20 cm – 30 cm
- **Shaft:** Straight or slightly curved
- **Handle:** Knurled or plain
- **End Type:** Loop, oval, or spoon-shaped curette tip
- **Sterilization Compatibility:** Autoclavable

## Sizes & Shapes

- **Sizes (by tip diameter):**
  - Small: 2 mm – 4 mm (used in paediatrics or small animals)
  - Medium: 5 mm – 8 mm (standard adult size)
  - Large: 9 mm – 12 mm (used in post-partum or veterinary cases)
- **Shapes:**
  - **Single-ended** (one curette tip)
  - **Double-ended** (different sizes or types on each end)
  - **Round, oval, or spoon-shaped curretting head**

## Types

- **Sharp Curette:** For precise removal or biopsy of endometrial tissue
- **Blunt Curette:** For gentle tissue removal or uterine cleaning
- **Sims Uterine Curette**
- **Kevorkian-Younger Endometrial Curette** (biopsy-specific)
- **Disposable Curette:** Sterile, plastic, single-use
- **Reusable Metal Curette:** Stainless steel, sterilizable

## Material

- **Reusable:** High-grade surgical stainless steel (non-corrosive, rust-resistant)
- **Disposable:** Medical-grade plastic with flexible shaft (sterile)

## Category

- Gynaecology Instruments
- Obstetrics & Reproductive Surgery Tools
- Veterinary Surgical Instruments
- Diagnostic Instruments

## Product Form

- Long, cylindrical instrument
- Loop or spoon-shaped scraping tip
- Textured or plain handle for grip
- Available as:
  - Reusable (metal)
  - Disposable (plastic, sterile-packed)

## Usage

- **Gynaecological Procedures:**
  - Dilation and Curettage (D&C)
  - Endometrial biopsy/ Diagnosis of abnormal uterine bleeding
  - Removal of retained products of conception (RPOC)

- **Veterinary Use:**

- Uterine cleaning in large animals post-calving or post-abortion
- Uterine biopsy or scraping in reproductive exams
- Managing endometritis in cows or mares

 **Advantages**

- Available in a wide range of sizes and shapes
- Reusable models are highly durable and cost-effective
- Disposable models reduce infection risk
- Precision design allows effective and safe curettage
- Sterilization-friendly for clinical environments

 **Disadvantages**

- Risk of uterine perforation if misused
- Requires trained personnel to avoid injury
- Single-use curettes may be less rigid/stable
- Must be sterilized properly to avoid infection

 **Precautions**

- Use only by trained gynaecologists or veterinarians
- Choose appropriate size/type based on patient condition
- Always check instrument integrity before use
- Sterilize before and after use (for reusable instruments)
- Discard properly if using disposable version

 **HS / HSN Code**

- **HS Code:** 9018.90 (Instruments and appliances used in medical or veterinary sciences)
- **HSN Code (India):** 9018.90.99 (Other instruments – including curettes)

## Handling & Sterilization Details

- **Cleaning:** Immediately rinse with enzymatic solution after use
- **Sterilization:** Autoclave at 121°C for 15–20 minutes
- **Storage:** Keep in a sterile surgical tray or pouch
- **Handling:** Avoid bending or dropping to maintain tip shape

## Human and Veterinary Application

### Veterinary Application

- Used in **large animal practices** (cattle, horses) for postpartum uterine care
- Helps remove **retained placenta**, debris, or perform endometrial biopsies
- Assists in treatment of **metritis**, **pyometra**, and **infertility management**
- Important tool for **field vets** and **animal reproductive specialists**

### Human Application

- Used by gynaecologists in **D&C procedures**
- Key instrument for **endometrial sampling**, **removal of uterine polyps**, or **RPOC**
- Helps diagnose **abnormal uterine bleeding**, **endometrial cancer**, or **infertility causes**
- Available in outpatient clinics and surgical theatres

## FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

### **Q1: What is the main function of a uterine curette?**

A1: It is used to scrape or remove the endometrial lining of the uterus for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.

### **Q2: What's the difference between sharp and blunt curettes?**

A2: Sharp curettes are for precise tissue removal or biopsy, while blunt curettes are for gentle uterine cleaning.

### **Q3: Can uterine curettes be reused?**

A3: Yes, stainless steel versions are reusable after proper sterilization; plastic ones are single-use.

### **Q4: Is it safe to use a curette on animals?**

A4: Yes, uterine curettes are used in veterinary medicine, especially for large animals, under proper veterinary supervision.

### **Q5: How is a uterine curette sterilized?**

A5: Reusable curettes are autoclaved at 121°C for 15–20 minutes after cleaning with enzymatic detergents.