

Teat Cannula

Description

A **Teat Cannula** is a slender, hollow, sterile tube designed to be temporarily inserted into the teat canal of dairy animals (such as cows and buffaloes) for medical or milking purposes. It facilitates drainage, medication administration, or assists in relieving teat canal obstructions (like stenosis or inflammation). The device helps maintain patency of the teat canal during treatment of mastitis or other teat injuries.

Made from surgical-grade stainless steel or medical-grade plastic, the cannula is designed to be gentle on tissue, minimizing trauma during insertion and use.

Specification

- **Material:** Surgical-grade stainless steel or medical-grade plastic (polypropylene/nylon)
- **Length:** Commonly ranges from 50 mm to 120 mm
- **Diameter:** Typically 3 mm to 6 mm (varies by animal size)
- **Tip Design:** Rounded or bevelled to ease insertion
- **Hollow Channel:** Allows fluid drainage or medication flow
- **Sterility:** Supplied sterile or non-sterile depending on manufacturer
- **Reusability:** Often reusable with proper sterilization (plastic usually single-use)

Sizes, Shapes & Types

- **Sizes:** Small, medium, large depending on species and teat size
- **Shapes:** Straight cannula most common; some curved variants exist
- **Types:**
 - Stainless steel (durable, reusable)
 - Plastic disposable (cost-effective, single-use)

Category, Product Form & Usage

- **Category:** Veterinary Surgical Instruments / Udder Care
- **Product Form:** Hollow tube instrument, sterile or non-sterile packaging
- **Usage:**
 - Insertion into teat canal to maintain drainage
 - Treatment of mastitis and teat injuries
 - Facilitation of milk flow during obstruction
 - Veterinary clinics, farms, and dairy operations

Advantages

- Minimally invasive aid for teat canal maintenance
- Reduces risk of infection by allowing medication access
- Durable when stainless steel; cost-effective when plastic
- Easy to insert and remove
- Supports quicker recovery from teat injuries

Disadvantages

- Potential tissue irritation if improperly sized or inserted
- Plastic types are single-use, creating recurring costs
- Risk of infection if not sterilized correctly
- May cause discomfort if left in too long

Precautions

- Use proper size for animal and teat size to avoid trauma
- Always sterilize reusable cannula before insertion
- Monitor insertion site for signs of infection or inflammation
- Avoid prolonged insertion beyond veterinary advice
- Handle with clean, gloved hands to maintain sterility

Handling & Sterilization

- **Handling:**
 - Use sterile gloves and aseptic technique
 - Inspect cannula before use for any damage
 - Clean after use if reusable
- **Sterilization:**
 - Stainless steel cannula: steam autoclave or chemical sterilization
 - Plastic cannula: usually single-use, dispose after use
 - Follow veterinary sterilization protocols

HS / HSN Codes

HS Code (International): 9018

HSN Code (India): 9018.90.29

Classified under surgical instruments & appliances

Human & Veterinary Applications

- **Human Use:** Rare, not standard; primarily veterinary
- **Veterinary Use:**
 - Widely used in dairy animals (cattle, buffaloes)
 - Helps treat mastitis, teat injuries, and milking complications

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: Can teat cannulas be reused?

A: Stainless steel versions are reusable with proper sterilization; plastic versions are usually single-use.

Q2: How do I choose the correct size?

A: Size depends on the animal species and the diameter of its teat canal; consult a vet for precise sizing.

Q3: How long can a teat cannula be left inserted?

A: Only as long as prescribed by a veterinarian to avoid tissue irritation or infection.

Q4: Can teat cannulas help treat mastitis?

A: Yes, by allowing drainage and medication delivery directly into the teat canal.

Q5: Is the teat cannula painful for the animal?

A: When inserted correctly with proper size and technique, discomfort is minimal.