

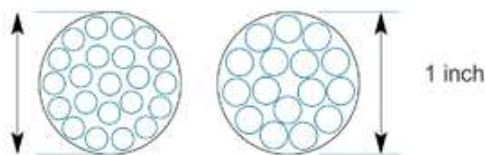
Colour Coding and Corresponding Sizes of Cannula/Catheter

Gauge ³	Colour ^{1,2}	Outside diameter of Catheter in mm	Range of actual outside diameter in mm
26	Purple	0.6	0.550 to 0.649
24	Yellow	0.7	0.650 to 0.749
22	Blue	0.8; 0.9	0.750 to 0.949
20	Pink	1.0; 1.1	0.950 to 1.149
18	Green	1.2; 1.3	1.150 to 1.349
17	White	1.4; 1.5	1.350 to 1.549
16	Grey	1.6; 1.7; 1.8	1.550 to 1.849
14	Orange	1.9; 2.0; 2.1; 2.2	1.850 to 2.249
13	Red	2.3; 2.4; 2.5	2.250 to 2.549
12	Light Blue	2.6; 2.7; 2.8	2.550 to 2.849
10	Tan	3.3; 3.4	3.250 to 3.549

1) The Colour may be opaque or translucent
 2) The Colour coding is usually applied to the catheter hub or to an integral fitting
 3) The use of gauge numbers is optional

Cannulae/Catheter Conversions. Outer Diameters/ Gauge - French Sizes

The definition of gauge measurement comes from the AAMI (Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation - USA). This states how many cannula fit into a tube with an inner diameter of 1" (1 inch = 25.4mm).



The AAMI uses even numbers (18, 20, 22, etc.) as measuring units.

A similar measurement definition exists in UK and Ireland and this is known as the SWG (Standard Wire Gauge). The SWG uses consecutive numbers, i.e. 13 to 24, and is the common method of measurement for catheters in Europe.

The Charriere, commonly known as French, relates directly to the catheter size i.e. 1Ch = 0.33mm. In the following table the measurements of the AAMI - SWG - French are shown in relation to the outer ø in mm.

