

## Barkey launches vialguard pro for optimal vial thawing

**In the last two years, Barkey took its knowledge and expertise in warming and thawing of fluids and advanced their products for the cell & gene therapy manufacturing industry. After the Barkey plasmatherm C&G and the Barkey varitherm, the vialguard pro is launched as an automated, controlled solution to thaw multiple small volume vials in a vertical position.**

While the plasmatherm C&G and varitherm were using the well-known design of previous plasmatherm versions, Barkey developed the dry heating technology to offer an option to thaw and warm small volume vials in a vertical position. Therefore, the vialguard pro uses new designed heating cushions in a heating frame, which conform tightly to the vials during a thawing cycle.

“Especially while manufacturing stem cell therapies, but also during other cell & gene manufacturing procedures, particularly small vials with very little content are in use. In these cases, it is of special importance to waste as little material as possible,” explains Chris Barkey, CEO of Barkey, “the vialguard pro offers a solution to thaw vials in an upright position to lose as little material as possible at the lid of the vial during a horizontal thawing process.”

The vialguard pro is based on the plasmatherm body but with the new designed heating frame in the heating chamber. The heating frame offers two rows, in which small volume vials can be placed between the vertical warming cushions. During a heating or thawing cycle, the warming cushions are filled with exactly tempered water which is circulating in a closed water system. By that, the samples benefit from the excellent characteristics in heat transfer of water without having direct contact with it. Filled with water, the vertical warming cushions are designed to conform exact and tightly to the samples. To create automated and controlled thawing processes, the vialguard pro offers four fully customizable programs in time and temperature as well as a continuous mode.

“We address this product to Process Development Managers, Upstream Specialists, R&D Engineers and Lab Managers. Everybody who would benefit from a solution to thaw as careful and controlled as possible”, Olga Bukatova, Associate Director Business Development of Barkey, concludes, “with its customized settings but controlled environment, it offers automated and robust processes to reduce the risk of human errors.”

### About Barkey:

Barkey is a German family business for medical technology in the field of warming devices and enjoys worldwide awareness in the hospital and blood bank sector as well as in cell & gene therapy research. Barkey is part of the Azenta Group.

Barkey’s main goals: Preventing hypothermia and advancing Cell & Gene research to develop cancer therapies. Therefore, Barkey produces solutions for warming or thawing blood products, cellular materials, infusion solutions, etc. The safety of samples, user and, of course, patients is of priority.

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