

Snap Caps Should Not Be Used on Crimp Top Vials - Tech Information

Date: 14-APRIL-2020 Last Updated: 27-OCTOBER-2025

No, Snap Caps are specifically designed to be used only with vials that have a snap-ring finish—commonly referred to as [Snap Ring Vials](#) or Snap Top Vials. These vials feature a specially designed top that allows the "snap cap" to securely attach.

Using snap caps on crimp-top vials, also known as a serum finish vial, should be avoided entirely. The neck design of a crimp-top vial does not provide the snap-ring feature required to hold a snap cap in place, resulting in poor sealing, insecure closure, and the potential for sample loss or contamination.

NOTE: *Crimp caps, on the other hand, are optimized for vials with a serum finish—often referred to as crimp-top vials. These vials provide the correct neck structure, sealing surface, and mechanical stability needed for a crimp cap to achieve a tight, reliable seal. While crimp caps can sometimes be used on snap-ring vials, this is not their intended application and may result in less-than-ideal performance.*

Summary:

- **Snap Caps** → Only for Snap Top Vials (with snap-ring finish)
- **Crimp Caps** → Best used with Crimp Top Vials (serum finish)
- **⚠ Do not use Snap Caps** on Crimp Top Vials

AUTOSAMPLER
VIALS AND CAPS