

Oregon Hospital Saves Thousands by Reducing Medical Waste and Supply Cost

Without any capital expenditure, Good Shepherd Medical Center substantially reduced medical waste and effectively cut supply cost over 50 percent by utilizing the latest in technology.

Hermiston, Oregon (PRWEB) August 13, 2005 -- Safety of the patient and staff is a number one priority. The latest in medical device reprocessing technology has allowed Good Shepherd Medical Center to substantially reduce hospital medical waste, improve patient and staff safety, and cut acquisition cost of selected medical devices by over 50 percent.

"Our corporate value statement mandates we will try to get the best result for the least cost in time and money, once we have first satisfied Safety/Quality, Courtesy and Compassion needs of our external and internal customers," said David Hughes, Senior VP and Chief Operating Officer for Good Shepherd Medical Center. "Our facilities decision to utilize high-level disinfection (HLD) medical device reprocessing over sterilization keeps with both our corporate vision and value statements."

"Even for a small facility like ours, it was really amazing to see the projected cost savings of utilizing high-level disinfection (HDL) from ReNu Medical and the Amerinet contract. Our savings are more than double that of sterilization, we substantially reduced our medical waste and the ReNu device collection system is safer and has no staff impact. Finally, device turn around time of 7-14 days helps us to better control inventory and further reduce cost," said Sue Gardner, Manager of Materials Management, Good Shepherd Medical Center. "We looked at all the options. From an economic, safety, FDA compliance, and environmental standpoint, we made the right decision."

High-Level Disinfection (HLD) via hot water pasteurization continues to be the best choice for many single use (non and semi critical) medical devices versus sterilization. Good Shepherd Medical Center is concerned for the preservation of the environment, reducing medical waste and improved savings.

ABOUT GOOD SHEPHERD MEDICAL CENTER:

Good Shepherd Medical Center is a progressive, not-for-profit 49-bed hospital located in Hermiston, Oregon. Established in 1954, GSMC plays a major role in meeting the medical needs in Northeast Oregon and is the largest entity in the Good Shepherd Health Care System.

GSMC is fully accredited by Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and boasts state-of-the-art equipment not typically found in smaller hospitals. In addition to the services listed, GSMC offers complete Medical/Surgical, OB/GYN, Critical Care, and Surgery Services. Our Trauma Level 3 Emergency Room is open 24 hours a day.

TLC Home Health, Vange John Memorial Hospice, Good Shepherd Clinic Pharmacy and Good Shepherd Medical Group are affiliated divisions of Good Shepherd Health Care System. The Good Shepherd Medical Foundation also helps the hospital fulfill its mission. A separate entity, the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation receives and disperses funds from the community to health related projects in the community.

GSMC is a major employer in the Hermiston area with over 400 employees and has 30 plus physicians on its



medical staff. Visit our website at www.gshealth.org

ABOUT RENU MEDICAL:

ReNu Medical is the leading reprocessor of single use (non and semi critical) medical devices (SUD's). ReNu's unique services focus on providing the safest product for the patient, reducing medical waste and significantly reducing supply costs by maximizing available savings.

ReNu's focus on single use (non and semi critical) medical devices provides a significant source of cost savings with very little associated risk. These devices go on the body not in the body. ReNu's non-toxic method of high-level disinfection has the ability to turn an individual medical device 2-3 times more than a sterilizing reprocessor.

ReNu has the proven lowest discard rate in the industry (less than 10 percent on average) allowing you to get more devices back. These advantages offer significant savings far above other reproducers.

Utilizing high-level disinfection reprocessing from ReNu, no harmful air emissions are released into the environment and no chemical residue is left on the device. The CDC, APIC and other healthcare organizations support HLD.

ReNu Medical is a supporter and Champion of Hospitals for a Healthy Environment. We recommend you visit their website (www.h2e-online.org) to learn more about how to reduce hospital medical waste.

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