# Maximising storage, minimising waste

MEDSTOR, a supplier of healthcare storage solutions, has recently finished work at the new Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and Royal Hospital for Children. Medstor was tasked with providing the foundation for materials management solutions throughout the hospital, supporting the lean stockholding system that would help to minimise waste and maximise storage across all departments. Medstor provided the liners, trays and dividers for medical consumable cabinets throughout the new site and, with its partner, Metro, the racking systems serving the operating theatres.

Medstor's liners, trays and dividers allow cabinet space to be maximised – storing more products, more efficiently, in less space. This is achieved through making the absolute most of what space there is available, ensuring product protection and segregation, and avoiding stockouts by supporting the hospital's own IT system to show stock shortages

Everything in the Medstor range is designed with infection control in mind, supporting the hospital's hygiene routine. The entire storage and distribution process is complemented by Medstor's colour-coded identification system, which uses coloured cards to make it easier to locate items. The system has been adopted by hospitals throughout NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Medstor is an official distributor of the

popular Metro Toptrack mobile storage system, which is designed to maximise storage within limited floor space areas, with smooth, snag-free construction and good airflow, allowing products to be stored as safely as possible – any tears in sterile packs mean the contents have to be resterilised or discarded, resulting in the delay or even cancellation of an operation. The shelving operates on a floor-mounted track system, so can be moved easily around the clean area, reducing handling and the accompanying risk of compromising equipment.

# New integrated theatres open at Lancashire

The Lancashire Women and Newborn Centre at Burnley General Hospital (run by the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust) recently opened two new operating theatres, both equipped with the most advanced equipment for laparoscopic surgery.

The integrated KARL STORZ OR1 NEO theatres are part of a £1.3 million investment, and will further cement the hospital's reputation as one of the North West's leading centres for laparoscopic gynaecological surgery, following its accreditation as an advanced centre for the treatment of endometriosis. The new theatres also mean that the four laparoscopic surgeons at Burnley can work with the hospital's oncology unit to perform many of what would have once been open-surgery hysterectomies, laparoscopically.

The OR1 NEO theatres offer connectivity with hospital ICT systems, giving improved audio-visual communication with Unicast streaming for teleconferencing, teaching or telesurgery. This opens up many opportunities for training and education, a vital part of the hospital's work. In addition to the theatres, state-of-the-art laparoscopic training equipment was also supplied. KARL STORZ won the contract with the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust to install the two theatres at Burnley and a further one at Blackburn, to be completed later in the year, after demonstrating its IMAGE1 SPIES system. IMAGE1 SPIES is a key component of the OR1 NEO theatre, optimising the surgeon's view of challenging anatomical areas during complex surgery.

# Providing the right product

DMI is a privately owned UK supplier of disposable medical instruments, able to provide a dedicated, bespoke service.

As the NHS is pushed to make ever more financial savings, the benefits of using suppliers that are able to work flexibly with hospitals to respond quickly to requests and maximise cost-effectiveness, have never been more pronounced. DMI carries a large stock of medical instruments and supplementary consumables, and has its own Ethylene Oxide sterilisation chamber and Class 7 medical grade cleanroom. This means orders for its customised sterile packs of stainless steel medical instruments can usually be turned around in just a few days – for very large orders, it even aims to have 10% of the order sent to the client within 72 hours.

# Waterproof gowns offer protection

MEDISAFE offers waterproof gowns with added protection against synthetic blood and viruses. Its gowns are ideal to use in procedures, reprocessing and for visitor purposes, with full shield protection for the wearer's front and arms, while the breathable material at the back keeps the wearer cool and comfortable – ensuring confidence and peace of mind.

# Intelligent OR light adjusts to ambient conditions

The iLED 7 from TRUMPF MEDICAL delivers optimum assistance to surgeons and OR team. Fluctuating light conditions in the operating room can be a serious impediment and may significantly hinder the surgeon's working procedures. The iLED 7 features a 3D sensor system that continuously analyses its environment. This information is evaluated and relayed to the lighting control system. As a result, the iLED 7 automatically adjusts to the needs of the individual surgeon, who is able to fully concentrate on the tasks and processes at hand.

With its automatic lighting and shadow management capability, the iLED 7 detects obstacles within the illuminated field, autonomously re-adjusts the defined configurations, rendering manual readjustments more or less superfluous. In combination with the intelligent distance measurement system, it guarantees constant

lighting intensities at between 80 and 130 cm. The illuminated field diameter also remains consistent, even when the working environment spontaneously changes during the operation – through the hand and arm movements of the operators for example – even with a minimal illuminated field size down to 14 cm in size. In this way, the iLED 7 provides optimum lighting whatever the situation and offers the surgeon the best-possible view of the operating area.

# Ultrasound for regional anaesthetic procedures

A SONOSITE X-Porte point-of-care ultrasound system is proving a key asset for regional anaesthesia at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust, as consultant anaesthetist, Dr James Stimpson explained: "Queen Elizabeth was one of the first Trusts in the UK to set up an ambulatory service for major shoulder surgery, and has been using ultrasound for regional anaesthetic procedures since 2004, when it purchased a SonoSite MicroMaxx system. Since then, as the use of ultrasound has increased and the technology continued to advance,


further systems have been added, including two SonoSite S-Nerves and, more recently, an X-Porte."

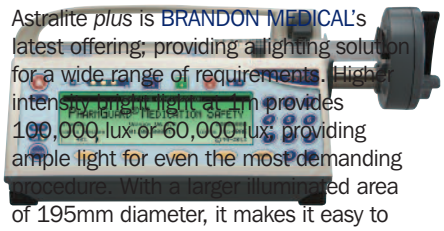
The touch screen interface of the system is very intuitive to use, while the quality and resolution of the images enables much clearer differentiation of nerve tissue from other structures. "Our ability to pick out small cutaneous nerves has been revolutionised, allowing us to perform more selective regional anaesthesia and enabling patients to mobilise and return home far sooner than would otherwise be possible," Dr Stimpson commented.

# Syringe infusion pump

SMITHS MEDICAL has launched the new Medfusion 3500 V6 syringe infusion pump with PharmGuard Toolbox 2 medication safety software, to provide highly configurable medication delivery. The new pump, coupled with the medication safety software, can configure clinical care areas and drug protocols, to enhance patient-centric care strategies and workflow. The improved workflow was developed after extensive testing of the user interface with a range of healthcare professionals, along with input from customers around the world.

The pump can be used with or without a custom drug library. The intelligent Windows-based PC PharmGuard safety software

# Versatile range of lights



Astralite *plus* is BRANDON MEDICAL's latest offering; providing a lighting solution for a wide range of requirements. Higher intensity bright light at 1m provides 100,000 lux or 60,000 lux; providing ample light for even the most demanding procedure. With a larger illuminated area of 195mm diameter, it makes it easy to illuminate large areas of tissue and to target the light on the wound.

The beams of light from Astralite *plus* have a focus depth of 970mm to penetrate into deep cavities. It reproduces all of the visible colours naturally and accurately. The

# Versatile patient trolleys

SIDHIL's E-Med range of high performance, variable height patient trolleys are designed to provide a safe and comfortable surface to support diagnostic and treatment procedures in the acute environment. Offering flexibility for applications in A&E, hospital wards, day case surgery, x-ray and general transfers, the E-Med trolleys are configured to combine an ergonomic, slimline profile for ease of manouevrability while retaining a wide platform for patient comfort, complete with compass side rails for optimum safety, reliability and facilitating minimum gap transfers.

The E-Med 1200 two section and E-Med 1400 four section trolley with kneebreak feature a smooth, adjustable height range of 56-88cm, easily operate using dual sided foot controls, and hav been developed specifically to allow e interface with medical devic radiological equipment.

# Endoscopic device for improved adenoma detection

AQUILANT ENDOSCOPY has launched EndoRings, its latest endoscopic device to aid gastroenterologists in improving care of patients. The innovative product easily attaches to the distal end of adult and slim colonoscopes to provide improved visibility, scope centring during screening and anchoring during endoscopic therapy.

In a recent international multi-centre 'CLEVER' study evaluating EndoRings in 126 patients, the adenoma detection rate was found to be 51% when using EndoRings, versus 29% with a standard colonoscope (a relative improvement of 70%). The number of polyps and adenomas detected when using EndoRings was more than twice that of standard colonoscopy. The device has three layers of flexible, soft circular rings that gently flatten folds within the colon during withdrawal allowing improved visibility of the colonic wall. Lesions hidden behind these folds are easily missed during standard endoscopy which can lead to a late diagnosis of cancers. Made from flexible silicon, EndoRings are supplied sterile and for single use only. The

orders for its customised sterile packs of stainless steel medical instruments can usually be turned around in just a few days – for very large orders, it even aims to have 10% of the order sent to the client within 72 hours.

Being able to handle small orders as well as large ones, and guaranteeing an impressive 5 years' shelf life on all products, means DMI is playing a vital role in minimising hospital waste – hospital stock can go out of date before it is used, but if the hospital can just order small amounts that remain sterile for 5 years, this can be avoided, and is a much more cost-effective and environmentally-friendly approach to stock control.

"Ensuring clients get the product they want, when they want it, is the cornerstone of DMI's business strategy. We work with clients in the NHS and private healthcare sector to minimise waste and maximise efficiency, providing products that, at the end of the day, help hospitals to work within their budgets and improve outcomes by reducing the risk of cross infection."