

## Reusable Arthroscopy Tubing

**Environmental and Human Health Impact:** Reduce volume of arthroscopy tubing sets disposed of by 430 pounds annually.

**Business Impact:** No cost impact associated with new tubing system.

### Challenge

Arthroscopy is the term used for minimally invasive surgery performed through a small incision in a patient's body. These surgeries often require large volumes of saline to be pumped through extensive tubing sets to the surgical site. Tubing sets required in older technology systems are required to be disposed of following each surgical procedure generating considerable waste.

### Aim/Goal

- Reduce the volume of waste associated with the removal of tubing sets used in arthroscopy following each surgical procedure.

### Team

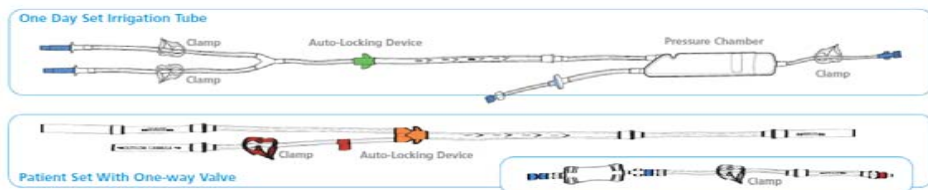
Arthroscopy Sourcing and Standards Team

Joe Polance, Sourcing Manager

Greg Daves, Service Line Director, MedAssets

### Actions Taken

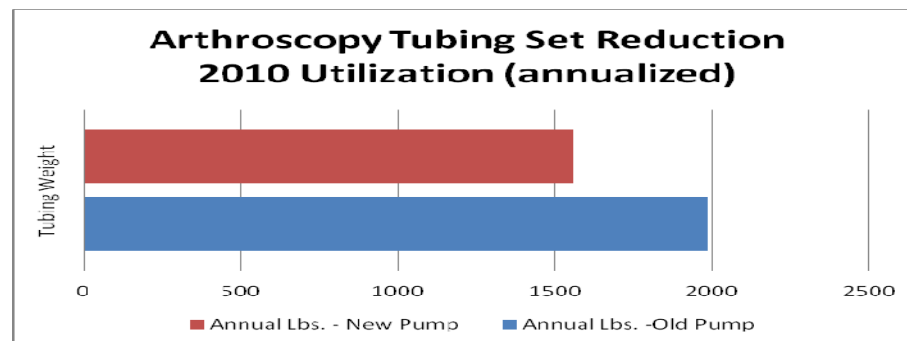
- ✓ Sourcing effort included the use of the Sustainability Scorecard which assisted the sourcing team with identification of environmental opportunities during the RFP process.
- ✓ RFP uncovered that one supplier's saline pump was equipped with technology that allows for **re-use of a portion of the tubing set** that brings saline from the bag through the pump and into an inflow/outflow valve, eliminating the need to dispose of this segment of tubing between surgical procedures.



- ✓ Partnered with the vendor to provide a calculator to quantify the reduction of tubing utilized.

- ✓ Sourcing team selected supplier based on their overall score which included quality, price, service, and environmental.

### Results



- ✓ Data from first nine months of contract shows that 900 patient sets have been purchased, which eliminates 320 pounds of tubing from the waste stream.
- ✓ **Annual projection is for 1,200 sets to be purchased, totaling 430 pounds of tubing that will be removed from the waste stream.**

### Lessons Learned

- ✓ Discuss environmental attributes of products and their endpoints in more depth with supplier during RFP negotiations to more easily track and quantify relevant benefits.
- ✓ Explore **ALL** potential opportunities for reduction and increase dialogue with vendors to create tools used in tracking and quantification.

### Next Steps

- ✓ Transition from old supplier to new national standard with DePuy. DePuy was the preferred supplier, so the transition should not be difficult.