



### The Benefit to Patients:

Procedure Packs deliver all the components needed in one single, sterile pack which improves aseptic control, potentially leaving patients less exposed to healthcare acquired infections.

### The Benefits to the NHS:

Procedure Packs can save hospitals time before, during and after surgery by cutting back on preparation time and making it easier to remove waste. Procedure Packs drive up the quality of healthcare and assist healthcare providers to work more efficiently. Procedure Packs could cut costs through better inventory management.

### The Problem:

It is difficult to quantify the savings that could be generated and to qualify the true benefits until Procedure Packs are fully utilised.

### The Solution:

Healthcare Managers are encouraged to review the entire patient pathway and establish how Procedure Packs can support them to work more efficiently throughout the system. Suppliers must work with Healthcare providers to design and use packs in the most efficient and cost effective way possible.

### Conclusion:

The use of Procedure Packs allows healthcare providers to work more efficiently and potentially deliver higher quality healthcare.

Procedure Packs deliver the right components, in the right configuration, in the right place, at the right time.

### The Product

Procedure Packs contains single use devices required to carry out procedures. All these products are contained and delivered into surgeries in a single sterile pack. The medical device industry works closely with clinicians and procurement designing and delivering sterile procedures packs in a timely, efficient and cost effective way. Procedure Packs are a selection of components which can range from surgical swabs, drapes, sutures, surgical blades and wound dressing to cardiac catheters and implants. The use of Procedure Packs is in line with the NHS Plan from 2000 which set a target of 75% operations being day cases.<sup>1</sup> Procedure Packs will also support the QUIPP agenda.

### Benefits and Examples

Procedure Packs can assist healthcare providers to reduce the time taken for each procedure, improve the quality of care and cut costs.

### Cost

- Procedure Packs can generate cost savings by enabling healthcare providers to work more efficiently and deliver more procedures in less time. The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals were able to increase the number of knee operations they carried out by 47%.<sup>2</sup>
- Procedure Packs enable healthcare providers to reduce the amount of stock hospitals need to carry at any one time and reduce the risk of expiry of slower moving lines. Using packs also enables managers to more easily identify total procedure cost.
- Procedure Packs ease the administrative burden and reduce management costs by cutting down the amount of time needed to be spent on monitoring and ordering inventory.
- Procedure Packs lead to a reduction in departmental requisitions and a standardisation of the inventory carried by hospitals.
- Procedure Packs reduce the number of deliveries and associated delivery costs.

### Time

- The utilisation of Procedure Packs can help reduce the amount of time taken for staff to pick the equipment necessary and set up for a clinical

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<sup>1</sup> NHS Plan, 2000-  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_118522.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_118522.pdf)

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid

procedure. A study carried out at the Day Surgery Unit, Kingston Hospital, NHS Hospital Trust Surrey<sup>3</sup> found that using Procedure Packs in just three procedures would save over 65 hours or 8 working days a year.

- Increased use of Procedure Packs also allows healthcare providers to reduce their supply base and save time by reducing the burden of administration.

### Quality

- Procedure Packs deliver the right components, in the right configuration, in the right place, at the right time.
- Procedure Packs deliver all the components needed in a single, sterile pack which improves aseptic control, potentially leaving patients less exposed to healthcare acquired infections.
- Procedure Packs improve the quality of service by increasing patient throughput and reducing response times for emergency procedures.
- By providing all components in a single pack, Procedure Packs simplify batch traceability.
- Broader uptake of Procedure Packs across a number of healthcare providers leads to a standardisation of practices and drives up quality. The utilisation of Procedure Packs can also allow healthcare providers to establish guidelines and properly assess providers against rigid standards.

### Environmental

Procedure Packs can reduce the amount of waste generated by units. The Kingston Hospital study saw the number of clinical waste bags reduce by 50%<sup>4</sup> and an initiative in The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals found that utilising procedure packs allowed them to eliminate one bag of rubbish per procedure .<sup>5</sup>



### The Issue

The benefits offered by Procedure Packs are often difficult to quantify as they are not necessarily readily apparent at the point of purchase. The total efficiency savings are only truly realised once the packs are in use.

### The Solutions

Healthcare Managers are encouraged to review the entire patient pathway and establish how Procedure Packs can support them to work more efficiently throughout the system.

Industry must work with Healthcare providers to design and use packs in the most efficient and cost effective way possible.

There may be opportunities for a better alignment of the functions necessary to generate savings. This will require close working between frontline staff, hospital managers and procurement professionals.

<sup>3</sup> *The Benefits of Using CUSTOMISED PROCEDURE PACKS, to Increase Day Surgery Unit Efficiency, 2005*  
[http://molnycke.com/Global/Surgical\\_Products/Global/documents/ProcedurePak\\_trays\\_and\\_kits/Procedure%20trays\\_UK%20Time%20and%20Motion%20Study.pdf](http://molnycke.com/Global/Surgical_Products/Global/documents/ProcedurePak_trays_and_kits/Procedure%20trays_UK%20Time%20and%20Motion%20Study.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>5</sup> *HETV, 'Liverpool hospital makes dramatic time and waste savings with pre-packed procedure tray'*-  
<http://www.healthexec.tv/RoyalLiverpoolandBroadgreen>