Research Summary
Sterile Disposable Sheath System for Flexible Cystoscopes
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Support for Stryker's Claims

- Stryker's Flexible Cystoscopes featuring Vision Sciences® EndoSheath® Technology are designed to reduce the risk of cross-contamination by providing a sterile, single-use barrier between patient and device.
  - "Endoscopes with disposable sheaths are safe to use and comply with universal precautions in the prevention of cross contamination. Importantly, sheaths provide protection against prions..." (p1313)

- The use of a disposable sheath reduces risks associated with exposure to toxic disinfectants used in high-level cleaning procedures, as such procedures are not required.
  - "The potential advantages of a disposable sheath system include ... minimizing exposure of staff to hazardous cleaning and sterilizing preparations. Employees are not exposed to contaminated instruments, potentially reducing infection risk." (p1312)

- The use of a disposable sheath eliminates lengthy and elaborate reprocessing procedures—resulting in faster equipment turn-around.
  - "The potential advantages of a disposable sheath system include eliminating sterilization of the cystoscope between patients, saving staff time..." (p1312)
  - "Disposable sheaths take less than 1 minute to apply and may be applied in front of patients, providing information and assurance." (p1312)

- Stryker's Flexible Cystoscopes offer valuable cost savings and revenue potential.
  - "The lack of exposure to bodily fluids and disinfecting solutions may prolong the life of the instrument and may eliminate the need to have backup instruments, potentially reducing costs." (p1312)
Abstract Quotation

Flexible cystourethroscopy is an accepted routine procedure in urology. The sterilization of instruments is time consuming and may damage flexible instruments. However, it must be performed to prevent contamination of the endoscopes. This study is the first to document experience using a flexible cystoscope with a disposable sheath in a urologic setting. UROLOGY 66: 1310–1313, 2005. © 2005 Elsevier Inc.

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