Research Summary

Out-Patient Flexible Cystoscopy Using a Disposable Slide-On EndoSheath System

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Support for Stryker's Claims

• Stryker's Flexible Cystoscopes featuring Vision Sciences® EndoSheath® Technology provide every patient with a sterile working channel.

  - “At first glance, the flexible cystoscope looks similar to existing instruments but closer inspection reveals several key differences … It has a lever to lock onto the disposable sheath and a depression valve for irrigation. The sheath incorporates a 6-F working channel for biopsy and ureteric stent removal.” (p426)

• Stryker's Flexible Cystoscopes are designed to reduce the risk of cross-contamination by providing a sterile, single-use barrier between patient and device.

  - “The US FDA-approved sheath is a proven effective barrier to micro-organisms as small as 27 nm (equivalent to a polio virus particle size) and is designed to isolate the patient from the cystoscope.” (p429)

• The use of a disposable sheath eliminates lengthy and elaborate reprocessing procedures—resulting in faster equipment turn-around.

  - “Purchasing and servicing a large number of instruments was considered costly. Moving flexible cystoscopy into an out-patient setting with the implementation of the new Vision Sciences flexible cystoscope using slide-on™ endosheath system may overcome these difficulties and provide an opportunity to improve efficiency.” (p426)

  - “The desheathing and re-sheathing process takes about 2 min.” (p427)

  - “Out-patient flexible cystoscopy is not a new concept but this requires either support with sterilisation units or several pre-packed scopes, which may limit the number of procedures that could be performed. The use of the resheathable, flexible cystoscopy overcomes most of these obstacles, potentially freeing up valuable day-theatre or endoscopy theatre time.” (p429)

  - “The cost of the Vision Science flexible cystoscopy is less than standard instrumentation.” (p429)

• EndoSheath technology helps lower capital and service costs.

  - “This study demonstrates that it is possible to perform out-patient flexible cystoscopy safely, economically and efficiently with the aid of a disposable endoscope system.” (p426)

  - “The flexible cystoscope could be pre-sterilised and ready for use; once used, it could be available for subsequent patients. This process could avoid costly instillations of sterilising equipment.” (p429)

  - “We would commend urologists and managers to consider the investment in out-patient flexible cystoscopy provision for both diagnostic and surveillance endoscopy and that the Vision Science CST-2000 with slide-on™ endosheath system be part of the planning.” (p429)
Abstract Quotation

INTRODUCTION
The aim of this study was to investigate the feasibility of out-patient flexible cystoscopy.

 PATIENTS AND METHODS
Twenty-seven patients awaiting diagnostic or check cystoscopy in Leeds, UK were invited to undergo out-patient flexible cystoscopy using a CST-2000 Flexible Cystoscope (Vision Sciences; Natick, MA, USA) using the sterile single-use slide-on (trade mark) disposable endosheath endoscope system (EndoSheath; Vision Sciences). The performance of the cystoscope was evaluated, and the patients’ experiences were documented using a questionnaire.

RESULTS
The out-patient setting proved to be ideal for flexible cystoscopy. The cystoscope was rated highly for image quality, ease of use and handling. All patients complimented us on the service and preferred out-patients to a day-ward or theatre attendance.

CONCLUSIONS
This study demonstrates that it is possible to perform out-patient flexible cystoscopy safely, economically and efficiently with the aid of a disposable endoscope system.

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