



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **Tracing System in ORL-HNC**

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#### **Introduction**

Unexpected incidents of unsterilized and non-disinfected instruments have been increasing. Risk of patient safety due to contaminated endoscope in YCH SOPD is anticipated. Involved cases should be traced early so that appropriate control measures and aftercare can be performed in time.

#### **Objectives**

To develop an effective tracking system to trace affected patients in case of contaminated endoscopes are inadvertently used.

#### **Methodology**

A patient tracing system was developed as follows: Identification numbers of both rigid and fibre-optic endoscopes being disinfected by that washer, which are regarded as unsterilized, are recorded for patient tracing. The identification codes of all the indexed endoscopes on the respective dates are sent to IT department for computer tracing of involved patients, i.e. being examined by the indexed endoscope on that day. The identity of all the involved patients, alongside with their contact number and address, are traced and printed out for further management.

#### **Result**

Results: Repeated trial runs and a drill have been performed. Designated staff members are found to be able to understand their specific roles and can manage to complete the endoscope record. All staff can scan & record the number of Fibro-optic and Rigid endoscope so that prompt and easy identification of involved parties can be achieved. All involved patients can be traced successfully. Besides, a concise, practical, user-friendly and systematic workflow in daily operation has also been developed for staff's reference in handling the index cases. Conclusion: The tracing system is a time-saving, accurate, reliable, efficient, and effective preventive

measure system. It also enhances the awareness of clinical staff on Emergency Response of medical incident.