No More Reuse of High Risk Single Use Medical Devices (SUD) in the New Territories West Cluster (NTWC)

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Introduction

Reuse of SUD has long been lingering health care services worldwide

Material defect,
Improper
decontamination of
medical devices

Concerns about patient safety, legal liability & ethics



Objective

To phase out all reused moderate-high risk and moderate risk SUD in order to minimize the potential risk imposed on patients in NTWC







Radifocus Angled Guidewire Class II critical SUD

Reciprocating Saw Blade Class I critical SUD





- Since 2004, NTWC has developed risk management system by device registration & device tracking system to govern reuse of SUD.
- The risk management approach was adopted as a corporate strategy for phasing out reused SUD since 2007.
- All high risk, moderate-high risk and moderate risk SUD have been changed to strictly reused based on potential risk factors: movable joints, inflated balloon, lumen tubing, close-end catheter, length of the catheter, product material durability etc.
- From 2008, extra central funding was allocated to 7 clusters through annual plan bidding.
- Additional budget was also allocated by NTWC budget to actively phase out those reused SUD based on the central and cluster risk priority list.

Methodology

- In 2008, NTWC Single Use Device Risk Management Committee was established to coordinate phasing out of reused SUD.
- Active cost benefit analysis not to reprocess low value added SUD.
- Annual audit to assure compliance to corporate standard on reused SUD.
- Principle of phasing out reused SUD through device registration and risk prioritization based on the matrix of Spaulding Classification & USA Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Classification of medical devices

		Spaulding Classification		
		Non-critical	Semi-critical	Critical
USA FDA Class	Class I	Very low risk	Low risk	Moderate risk
	Class II	Low risk	Moderate risk	Moderate-high risk
	Class III (must not be reused)	No such item	High risk	High risk

Result

NTWC has become a pioneer among all clusters to introduce risk management system to **phase out all Class I and Class II critical reused SUD** to ensure the cluster clinical service quality and patient safety.



