

# Rejuvenating Our Medical Device Reprocessing Program

## Opportunity

Each year hospitals use thousands of Single Use Devices (SUDs). Manufacturers are moving from reusable to disposable products, but single use products are generally more expensive and fill our landfills. A solution to both the cost and waste is to maximize every opportunity to use reprocessed SUDs.

## Aim/Goal

Our goals were to make the use of reprocessed SUDs common practice and identify new products that can be reprocessed.

An additional goal was to help our affiliates start reprocessing programs to maximize savings and reduce waste in the hospital system and advance our efforts to be an environmentally responsible organization.

## The Team

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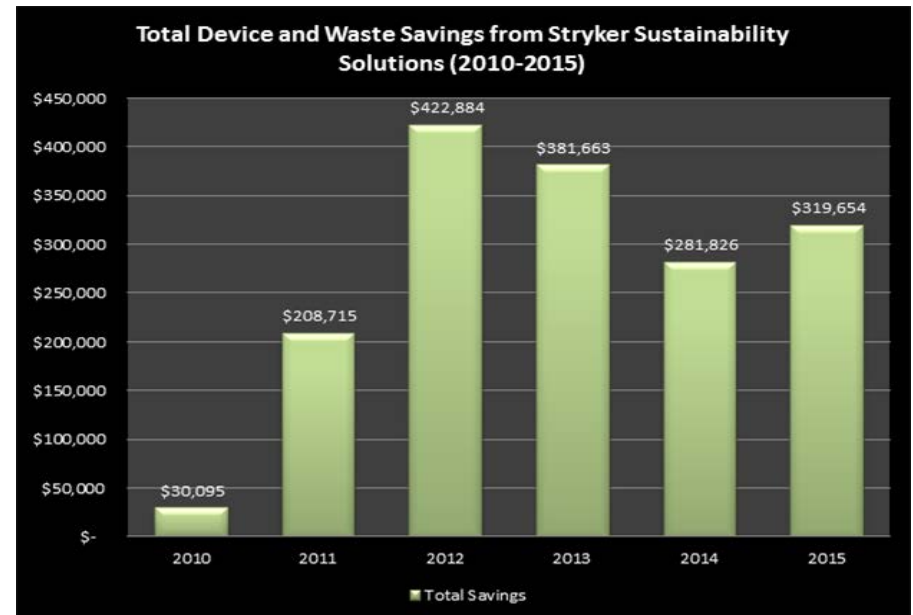
Belinda Morse, RN

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## The Interventions

- Partnered with Stryker Sustainability to analyze our savings opportunities throughout the hospital; added new product lines such as orthopedic external fixation and energy devices.
- Re-educated OR and Cath Lab staff about which items can be reprocessed.
- Placed labeled collection receptacles in each area to maximize our reprocessing and recycling opportunity.
- Developed a new partnership with SterilMed for reprocessing AccuNav catheters based on our physicians' preferences.
- Worked to introduce and implement reprocessing programs for our affiliates at Milton (in process), Needham and Plymouth.
- Periodically review our collective savings achievements to maintain staff engagement.

## The Results/Progress to Date



- We have saved \$174,000 by reprocessing AccuNav catheters with SterilMed.
- A new reprocessing program has successfully been implemented at BID-Needham. Our Milton and Plymouth sites have plans to establish the program in 2016.
- In the past six years we have captured \$1,644,837 in savings.

## Next Steps/What Should Happen Next

- Continue to take advantage of new products that become available for reprocessing. At the same time, as manufacturers make changes to their products that eliminate the option of reprocessing, the program requires constant vigilance.
- Finish implementing reprocessing programs at our Milton and Plymouth sites.