Bringing you environmentally-friendly healthcare solutions

The Cardinal Health sustainability program strives to reduce the environmental footprint of our products and services.

Start in the hospital

Operating suites in hospitals can produce up to 20 to 30 percent of a hospital's total waste, as well as cut costs in your overall supply chain. At Cardinal Health, we understand your need to alleviate the strain on the environment through waste and energy use reduction. One way we can help is through our Presource® Products and Services. Our Presource® Procedure Packs consolidate individual supplies into procedure-specific kits, reducing the amount of packaging waste and decreasing the number of unused items in a procedure that otherwise would enter the waste stream.

Procedure pack program assessment

Our process begins with an assessment of your current clinical practice and component usage. Based on the information gathered, we design a procedure pack program to suit your unique needs. Our extensive product portfolio provides numerous options to ensure you have the right pack for the right procedure, as well as the right components in the pack.
Our pack program specialists and clinicians work with you to ensure your packs contain exactly what you need and nothing more, maximizing value and minimizing waste. Additionally, our unique partnership with SRI allows us to ship our disposable packs and their reusable items together under one SKU. Cardinal Health is the only vendor in the market place to provide this offering.

Preference card solution

In addition to eliminating inefficiencies, good preference card management is also key to managing waste. If preference cards are not maintained, items are often opened and not used, increasing returns, waste and reprocessing. Through our preference card engagement, our experienced clinical team works with you to assess your existing preference card system or process to ensure your top surgical procedure preference cards contain accurate and consistent information. In addition to improvements in accuracy, productivity, staff satisfaction and data management, you will also benefit from a reduction in returns and waste.

Facts about healthcare waste and energy use

- U.S. healthcare facilities add ~100 million square feet of land space annually, generating 110,000 tons of construction waste

- In excess of 2 million tons of general waste is generated annually by U.S. healthcare facilities – equivalent to more than 220,000 dumpsters

- Of the waste generated by U.S. healthcare facilities, 85 percent is non-infectious

- Inpatient facilities spend more than $5.3 billion per year on energy

- Hospital carbon emissions are more than 40 times that of an average commercial office building

Source: www.aorn.org

CardinalHealth

Essential to care™

Cardinal Health is taking steps globally to reduce waste

Cardinal Health is dedicated to establishing sustainable standards within our company and yours. In the last few years, we have launched several sustainable programs to do our part in helping to improve the environment, including:

• Incorporating Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards at our corporate headquarters

• Implementing aggressive recycling programs at nearly all our facilities

• Establishing recycling programs to track waste usage

   - 60 percent of our total waste volume was recycled in 2010

   - Recycling approximately 27 percent of our water

• Encouraging employee park-and-ride and carpool programs

On a national level, Cardinal Health is a founding corporate sponsor of the "Practice Greenhealth Greening the Operating Room (GOR)" initiative. This effort is being implemented nationwide and aims to reduce the environmental footprint of operating rooms across the country.

Cardinal Health has also established a world class Environment, Health and Safety Management System (EHSMS). Since the launch of the management team, our sustainable benchmarks have been recognized by the Dow Jones Sustainability Index, and we are included on the DJSI North America Index. This elite recognition is awarded to approximately five percent of the applicants, and includes companies based on their sustainable benchmarks.

Cardinal Health has earned the US EPA SmartWay Carrier program's highest possible score of 1.25, acknowledging 'outstanding' commitment to utilizing commercially available fuel saving strategies and to actively evaluating emerging technologies to continue to reduce the environmental impact of its fleet. Cardinal Health was also recognized as being in the top five percent of all companies participating in the EPA SmartWay Shipper program, in recognition of its extensive use of third party carriers that are also members of the SmartWay Carrier Program.

To learn more about Cardinal Health and how we can provide everyday solutions to all of your healthcare needs, contact your Cardinal Health representative or visit cardinalhealth.com.

What can you do?
In addition to the help Presource® solutions can provide, there are many things you can do:

• Educate your staff on practices to reduce energy consumption

• Establish a recycling program at home and in the office

• Explore recycling programs for non-infectious waste (paper, irrigation bottles, sterilization wraps, metal cans, corrugated cardboard and other plastics)

• Provide recycling receptacles in areas where waste is generated

• Incorporate LEED design standards in new construction and the renovation of existing facilities

• Consider reprocessing single-use medical devices

• Look for products that meet the Energy Star standards

• Purchase products with less packaging

• Change your light bulbs to fluorescent and recycle used bulbs

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