

CASE STUDY > TUCSON MEDICAL CENTER IMAGING SERVICES

Radiology department saving \$22,140 annually with revolutionary direct-to-drain waste fluid system

The high cost of evacuated bottles drove TMC Imaging Services Director Dan Felix to explore alternatives for collecting and disposing of acetic and pleural fluid. “We chose the STREAMWAY System because it’s self-contained, extremely easy to use and, for us, had a return on investment of approximately nine months, with ongoing annual savings of \$22,140 a year. That made it one of the easiest purchase requests I’ve ever had to make,” Felix noted.

TMC uses the STREAMWAY System for roughly 80 percent of its paracentesis and thoracentesis procedures. “The other 20 percent are either portables, where we have to do the procedure in the patient’s room because they can’t be moved, or for patients we see on a regular basis who have low volume and only require one bottle. Our break-even point is two bottles,” Felix explained.

Thumbs’ Up from Technologists

The department has a dozen technologists on staff. While they initially thought the new system sounded too good to be true, they quickly realized the STREAMWAY System really was a gamechanger.

“Most technologists like order, not change, so we were skeptical,” admitted Moravia Costanza, TCM Ultrasound Department Supervisor who also performs procedures. “But once we started using it, we realized how easy it was and how much safer for us,” she said.

Costanza noted the many benefits for procedure staff:

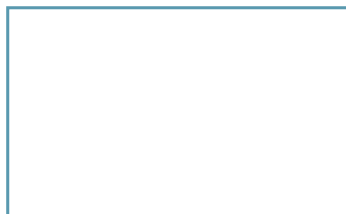
Ease of use: “The instruction screen is very user friendly.”

The safety factor: “We’re not spilling fluid or accidentally pulling the patient’s catheter out, because we aren’t having to stop and exchange bottles.”

Speed: “You might not notice a difference with low volumes, but if you’re taking out 10 liters, the procedure is about 15 minutes faster.”

Accuracy of volume extraction: “One of our radiologists said the STREAMWAY System is worth its weight in gold, because of its accuracy.”

Greater focus on patient: “We don’t have to watch and exchange bottles, so we can interact more with patients.”



At a glance

Tucson Medical Center (TMC) is a Joint Commission-accredited, 600-bed regional teaching hospital that’s part of the Mayo Care Clinic Network.

Located: Tucson, Arizona

Dedicated Ultrasound Rooms: 1

Annual Paracentesis Procedures: 390

Annual Thoracentesis Procedures: 260

STREAMWAY System Units: 1 installed in 2015

Number of evacuated bottles annually prior to installation: Nearly 1,900

Cost per procedure with bottles, including disposal fees: \$107.10

Cost per procedure with the STREAMWAY System, including filter and cleaning solution: \$24.00

www.tmc.az.com

“With annual savings of \$22,140 a year, this was the easiest purchase request I’ve ever had to make.”

About The STREAMWAY System

This revolutionary, FDA-approved system is the first truly closed waste fluid disposal system designed specifically for medical applications, where safety simply can't be compromised. It connects directly to a facility's plumbing system to automate the collection, measurement and disposal of waste fluids, which:

- Minimizes human intervention for improved safety and improved compliance with Occupational State and Health Association (OSHA) and other regulatory agency safety guidelines.
- Provides unlimited capacity for increased efficiency in the operating room, and radiology and endoscopy departments — leading to greater profitability.
- Eliminates canisters to reduce overhead cost and provide greater environmental stewardship by helping to eliminate the approximately 50 million potentially disease-infected canisters that go into landfills annually in the United States.



- **Illuminated System Status Display**
See real-time fluid volume, vacuum pressure and system status
- **Color Touch Screen Display**
Activate and operate entire system via intuitive controls
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Resets to zero after every use; new level must be set and confirmed to start system
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Prevents cross contamination and allows for tissue retrieval
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Attach up to 4 suction lines quickly and easily
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Visualize collected fluid through window
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