

## Busy outpatient surgery center improves safety with direct-to-drain waste fluid system

One of staff nurse Fran Hahn's happiest days at Huntingdon Valley Surgery Center was when she learned the facility was doing away with antiquated waste fluid canisters in two of its operating rooms. That's because Hahn knows firsthand the consequences of being exposed to contaminated fluid.

"Many years ago, while working at a different facility, contaminated fluid splashed in my eye while I was changing a full suction canister," she explained. "The patient was HIV-positive, so I had to be tested for the next 18 months. Luckily, I was not infected. But no one should have to go through that."

Staff safety was a key reason Huntingdon Valley switched to the **STREAMWAY® System**, a revolutionary, FDA-approved system for automated, direct-to-drain medical fluid disposal. Other benefits the facility has realized with the advanced system include:

**Improved Patient Safety** — As Patient Safety Officer at Huntingdon Valley, Hahn appreciates the improved patient safety that comes with the STREAMWAY System. "Anyone who handles waste fluid for arthroscopic procedures the old way knows that you're continually filling canisters. I've changed up to eight canisters in a case," Hahn said. "Each changeover takes a few minutes, so that's time you can't pay attention to the patient. With STREAMWAY, no manual intervention is needed, so nurses can stay focused on what the patient and doctor need." She also gave kudos to built-in safety features, such as staff confirmation of the vacuum level before the system will turn on.

**Consistent Surgeon Visibility** — Surgeons at Huntingdon Valley notice a difference in suction with STREAMWAY. "With the old canisters, surgeons would complain that suction levels sometimes dropped, impairing their visual," Hahn said. "With The STREAMWAY System, they get uninterrupted performance."

**Minimal Training** — "The STREAMWAY System is so simple to use and intuitive that we only needed a 10-minute in-service session," Hahn said.

Hahn has been so impressed with the STREAMWAY System that she tells other nurses they should have their administrators look into STREAMWAY. "I stood up at the AORN Conference and told attendees about STREAMWAY," she said. "For facilities like ours that take pride in having state-of-the-art technologies, providing the best patient care and keeping staff safe, STREAMWAY is such a logical choice for waste fluid management."



Operating room staff at Huntingdon Valley Surgery Center no longer have to handle contaminated fluid since installing the direct-to-drain STREAMWAY System, the first truly closed system for collecting and disposing of medical waste fluid.

### At a glance

Huntingdon Valley Surgery Center is an AAAHC-accredited, 18,000-square-foot outpatient surgery facility that supports 19 owner/surgeon partners. It offers specialties in ophthalmology, orthopedics, colorectal, general surgery, podiatry, gastroenterology and pain management.

**Located:** Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania

**Operating Rooms:** 4

**Procedure Rooms:** 2

**Average Procedures Monthly:**  
600 – 700

[huntingdonvalleysurgerycenter.com](http://huntingdonvalleysurgerycenter.com)

"I cringe when I have to do an arthroscopic procedure in one of the rooms without STREAMWAY. It's so much easier and safer to use than canisters."

- Fran Hahn  
BSN, RN, CNOR

## 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
- **Safety Vacuum Adjustment**  
Resets to zero after every use; new level must be set and confirmed to start system
- **Single-Procedure Filter and Tissue Trap**  
Prevents cross contamination and allows for tissue retrieval
- **Quick-Connect Suction Ports**  
Attach up to 4 suction lines quickly and easily
- **Backlit Fluid View Chamber**  
Visualize collected fluid through window
- **Quick-Connect Cleaning Hookup**  
Ready system for next case using quick-clean program



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