Revolutionary direct-to-drain waste fluid system improves safety, patient care — and reduces costs by 77%

When Terri Hannon, director of Radiology Services for Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital (OLBH) first heard about the STREAMWAY® System, a revolutionary, FDA-approved system for automated, direct-to-drain medical fluid disposal — she thought it sounded too good to be true. Yet the cost of glass evacuation bottles was skyrocketing and supplies were increasingly difficult to find. The waste fluid management cost per paracentesis or thoracentesis procedure at OLBH averaged more than $81. So Hannon was motivated to explore any solution that could address those problems.

“Ultimately, none of the competitors had the same combination of features and 77% cost savings offered by the STREAMWAY System,” explains Hannon.

The money to purchase the system came from Bon Secours Health System’s “Quick Wins” program — which provides funds for purchases that promise immediate benefits in terms of savings, safety and other criteria.

“Given the number of large medical facilities in Kentucky, I was excited to find out we were the first hospital in the state to install this system,” says Hannon. “I suspect everyone will have one soon, it’s just such a clear win!”

Improved Infection Control

While bottle drops were rare, they presented a serious infection risk. In addition, the OLBH radiology staff had to stay on top of the small amounts of leakage that occurred with almost every bottle change — which presented a safety issue for both patients and staff. The Streamway eliminates the risk of broken bottles and leakage altogether.

“This system is just cleaner, safer and more professional in every way,”
— Radiology department nurse Lisa Slone.

Pin Point Accuracy: “In the past, we had to guesstimate how much over or under we might have drawn in each 1 liter bottle. The STREAMWAY accurately measures volume down to the last cc of fluid you’ve collected,” says Slone.

Precise Volume Control: “With a thoracentesis, drawing fluid too quickly can cause pain. Drawing too much, too fast can put a patient at risk for re-expansion pulmonary edema, explains Slone. “With the STREAMWAY, it’s easy to control the rate and volume — and you’ve got the total calculation at the end.”

Patient & Physician Approved: “Patients appreciate that we can spend more time interacting with them and attending to their needs instead of scurrying around changing bottles and checking for overfills,” says Slone. “For physicians, the faster turnaround is a plus.”

Speed & Ease: “We’ve shaved 10 to 15 minutes off high-volume draws,” says Slone. “The system is so user-friendly, you can train somebody in minutes.”

At a glance

Part of the Bon Secours Health System which operates in 6 states, Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital (OLBH) is a 214-bed acute-care facility.

Located: Ashland, Kentucky

STREAMWAY System

Installed: 2018

Number of evacuated bottles annually prior to installation: 762

Cost per procedure with bottles, including disposal fees: $82

Annual Savings with the STREAMWAY System:
$11,584.00

bonsecours.com/kentucky

“I read about the Streamway in an AHRA publication and called right away... boy I was glad I did!”

“I’ve been buying imaging and related equipment for 40 years — and this one is a classic.”

- Terri Hannon
Director of OLBH Radiology Services
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 Safety 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.

The STREAMWAY System received an Innovative Technology Designation from Vizient, the largest, member-driven health care performance improvement company in the United States. The exclusive designation is given to technologies that demonstrate an ability to enhance clinical care or patient safety.

1. Illuminated System Status Display
   See real-time fluid volume, vacuum pressure & system status

2. Color Touch Screen Display
   Activate and operate entire system via intuitive controls

3. Safety Vacuum Adjustment
   Vacuum safely controlled through touchscreen

4. Single Patient Procedure Filter & Tissue Trap
   Prevent cross contamination and easily retrieve tissue sample

5. Quick-Connect Suction Ports
   Attach up to 4 suction lines quickly and easily

6. Backlit Fluid View Chamber
   Visualize collected fluid through window

7. Rapid Cleaning Cycle
   Ready system for next case using quick-clean program

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