BLOOD PRESSURE CUFFS, YOUR HOSPITAL and the **ENVIRONMENT**

Hospitals in the U.S. generate **more than 7,000 tons** of waste each day.¹ Sustainable product design can help hospitals balance the need to control their environmental impact while helping to reduce the risk of cross-contamination with single-use devices. A lifecycle analysis performed by the Golisano Institute for Sustainability² highlights the advantages of the Welch Allyn FlexiPort® EcoCuff™ over traditional blood pressure cuff styles.



RAW MATERIALS

The volume and type of materials used to create a blood pressure cuff can add to a facility's environmental footprint.

The Welch Allyn FlexiPort EcoCuff is 100% polypropylene and uses less material than traditional blood pressure cuffs.



TRANSPORTATION

Product packaging and material weight significantly impact transportation efficiency, which is a key factor in determining environmental impact.

EcoCuff weighs half as much as traditional disposable cuffs



The manufacturing process used to make a cuff dictates environmental factors like energy consumption and material waste.

EcoCuff uses a lower energy manufacturing process that yields less scrap material than traditional disposable cuffs.



Single-patient-use disposable blood pressure cuffs like EcoCuff may help reduce the risk of cross-contamination from infections like c. diff.³



PRODUCT DISPOSAL

Many blood pressure cuffs contain harmful materials such as BPA and DEHP, which can leach into the environment in a landfill.

EcoCuff is built with polypropylene, which has a less harmful impact on the environment than materials used in many traditional disposable cuffs.



RECYCLING

Though the practice is not yet widespread, EcoCuff is capable of being recycled.⁴

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1 - http://www.epa.gov/region3/green/healthcare.html#how 2 - Based on an independent lifecycle analysis conducted by The Center for Sustainable Production at Rochester Institute of Technology comparing EcoCuff to traditional FlexiPort disposable blood pressure cuffs and traditional Trimline cuffs when used in a one-cuff-per-patient-use model. 3 - Implementation of Disposable Blood Pressure Cuffs as a Novel Approach to Reduce Fomite Transmission of Healthcare-Associated (HCA) Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI) in a Community Hospital or Twice Implemented Is Once Credible, Am Journal of Infection Control June 2009. 4 - Several US hospitals are already recycling medical-use polypropylene, though the practice may not be generally available in your area.

THE RESULT:

The New Welch Allyn EcoCuff has



LESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT THAN TRADITIONAL DISPOSABLE CUFFS.