

TO DO A GOOD JOB
YOU NEED GOOD VISIBILITY

gelre ziekenhuizen

Customer testimonial: Gelre Ziekenhuizen

About Gelre Ziekenhuizen

Take better care of each other!

With more than 3,600 committed employees, the professionals at Gelre work hard to improve the health of the 350,000 people in their service area. In this way they are at the heart of healthcare in their region. In addition, they fulfil a supra-regional function on the basis of specific knowledge and expertise in a number of medical fields, amongst which sterilisation. Their mission is to keep personal care accessible and affordable by means of targeted innovation and better and smarter healthcare. They achieve this by developing and sharing knowledge and by new forms of cooperation with care partners and by making optimal use of digital possibilities.

Problem - Manual leaktest

A recognizable fact in many central sterilization departments, is the highly variable procedure during manual pre-cleaning of scopes. One sterilisation employee leaves the scope attached to the leak tester for two minutes, another for only thirty seconds. One staff member detects a leak when the scope goes down from 220 mBar to 200 mBar and the other only at 180 mBar or through the air bubbles in the water bath.

The process is not reproducible and depends greatly on the sterilisation department employee. Reason enough for Bas Vriend, CSD team leader at the Zutphen location of Gelre Ziekenhuizen, to work with a smart leak tester.



Previous situation

Bas Vriend explains, "After manual pre-cleaning - when the scope is placed in the disinfection machine - there are times that a scope does not pass the leak test of the disinfection machine. The cause may be a leaking scope, a defective seal or an incorrect connection.

If such a problem occurs, it is quite annoying. The **disinfection process is interrupted** to find and solve the problem, which always costs extra time.

Another problem occurs when scopes are not properly tested. It has to do with microleaks that cannot be detected manually and when scopes enter the disinfection machine. The undetected leaks can cause damage to the scope and incur **increased repair costs!**"

"There must be a better way to do that, I thought." Bas Vriend found LeakControl. After exchanging ideas, he soon realized the potential **increase in patient safety** and thought of possible **savings on repairs.**

Current situation

The CSSD of Gelre Ziekenhuizen Zutphen conducted extensive tests with a predecessor of LeakControl. During this test phase, we came up with several experiences. "What emerged, for example, is that if you want to accurately test a large scope, you have to test it for 120 seconds for leak-tightness.

This is of less importance with small scopes, because in case of leakage the pressure drops faster," Bas Vriend explains.

"LeakControl can distinguish between a large scope such as a colonoscope and a smaller one such as a bronchoscope and adjust its measuring time accordingly."

LeakControl can automatically switch between the two or you can select the preferred timeframe.

It turns out that when you put a scope in a bath with a water temperature of more than 30 C, the pressure in the scope increases. This makes it almost impossible to detect small leaks. LeakControl can detect over-pressure caused by heating and incorporates this overpressure into the measurement, so that **small leaks are also detected.**

User experience

"We are happy to be rid of our hand pumps and the rather noisy electric pump. They were really the cause of many problems."

In the meantime, the predecessor of LeakControl has been working here for years. It's a very stable product. Our service history shows that they developed and manufactured a very durable product." Three of the same testers have been running within Gelre hospitals since the end of 2015.

"It has turned out that with a relatively small investment, LeakControl is a constant factor and provides a quality improvement and cost savings within the scope cleaning process here at Gelre."

The leak tester works on a clear go/no-go principle, by means of a red or green LED. "Leak testing has become a reproducible process and is no longer dependent on other factors such as time and pressure estimates from colleagues. It is suspected that LeakControl has prevented scope damage in addition to saving time."

Bas Vriend

*CSA Team leader
Gelre Ziekenhuizen
Apeldoorn & Zutphen*



Interested?

Many hospitals have already expressed interest in LeakControl or have these testers in use. The leak tester can be set up to suit each user. Contact Dovidex today for a quote. For any user experiences, please contact Bas Vriend, Team Leader CSA Gelre Ziekenhuizen - location Zutphen.

For more info visit: www.dovidexmedical.com