Review after 7 years of using ScopeControl by St. Johannes Hospital

Introduction

During the 2015 DGSV Congress in Fulda, a presentation was given by Dovideq, on the importance of testing endoscopes with an automated system.

CSSD director Klaus Wiese then asked Dovideq to visit. In his clinic, there was no reliable way to verify if repairs were necessary or if they were done correctly.

Ambiguity.

"Dependence on an endoscope manufacturer to decide both repairs and replacements was not considered verifiable."

Pilot Project raised eyebrows

For this reason, it was decided to conduct a two-week pilot project to see if the Dovideqs automated endoscope testing device could help and if it would uncover any other problems. During the trial, each optic was tested for 6 parameters after each operation.



The operating room staff and the medical technical team were informed about the test period and asked to check if they would notice anything unusual during these two weeks. After this pilot test, the results would be reviewed and discussed.

The manufacturers were not informed about the pilot project and when they learned about it, they were very curious about this device after rigid endoscopes were sent for repair with a detailed test report with clear indications of failed parameters.

Results

After 2 weeks, some surprising results were found: The automated tester for rigid endoscopes is more accurate and has more reproducible results than humans when checking optics. Repairs can be checked accurately for quality control before they are put into circulation. Of particular note, repaired endoscopes are not returned to like-new condition. In particular, light transmission and optical fibers are often negatively affected.

Operating room staff reported that no broken endoscopes had entered the operating room during the pilot project. Considering that an active operating room costs about €90 per minute and a broken endoscope causes at least a 10-minute delay, it was determined that this fact alone would quickly pay for the equipment.

After the pilot, the ScopeControl remained at the hospital and a lease was arranged for the time it took the hospital to set up the purchasing process.

In March 2016, St. Johannes Hospital in Dortmund, Germany, purchased Dovideq's automated rigid endoscope testing system. It is still running. Each endoscope is tested after cleaning and before sterilization.

Long-term results

Since using ScopeControl to test all endoscopes, the delays and failures in the OR have become less over the entire period. All repairs are sent in with an automatically generated test report and are tested before being put back into the set. Overviews of the inventory are generated on a monthly basis.



Klaus Wiese CSSD Manager St. Johannes Hospital Dortmund, Germany