

SINGLE-USE RECOMMENDED

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A LEADING CENTRE'S TREATMENT ALGORITHM

A VALUABLE DECISION-MAKING TOOL

One of the world's highest-volume ERCP academic centres now recommends single-use duodenoscopes as part of its treatment algorithm. In a recent paper* in *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, Mark A. Gromski and Stuart Sherman of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Indiana University School of Medicine explained that their institution created the algorithm "to guide our clinicians and to inform administrators".

*Technological Review: Developments in Innovative Duodenoscopes, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* (2021)

GUIDANCE TAILORED TO CENTRE VOLUME

The algorithm suggests a hybrid, tiered approach for most medium- and large-volume ERCP centres. Single-use duodenoscopes are recommended for patients with a history of MDRO or recurrent cholangitis, and are to be considered for immunocompromised patients. The paper indicates that full adoption of single-use duodenoscopes may hold an appeal for low-volume centres.

DISPOSABLE TIP: CROSS-CONTAMINATION RISK

The paper also considers the use of single-use end-cap components with reusable duodenoscopes. It concludes that these will not eliminate the risk of cross-contamination. That is both because evidence exists that areas other than the tip harbour bacterial burden and because no reprocessing strategy has yet completely eliminated bacterial growth on surveillance cultures.

REPROCESSING: SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN

Exploring the environmental burden of reprocessing, the paper points to the potential of ethylene oxide, a known carcinogen, to cause toxicity. It also remarks upon the large amount of personal protective equipment (PPE) that nurses and technicians use every time they reprocess an endoscope.



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Produced by the world's leading single-use endoscope supplier, aScope Duodeno is a single-use endoscope for ERCP procedures. With no reprocessing or repair, sterility straight from the pack and the consistent performance you are used to, aScope Duodeno is designed to optimise workflow and safety.

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