

A Robust Product Reprocessing Program - A Trifecta of Success

Project Overview: Raw material shortages and logistics challenges complicate patient and staff needs required to provide safe, quality-based care. An effective reprocessing program creates a safety net of opportunities to secure product availability ensuring patient care needs are achieved. Additional benefits are realized through waste reduction. Reprocessing reduces waste and keeps thousands of pounds of medical products out of landfills. The green initiative is not only environmentally friendly, but also fiscally responsible, limiting significant disposal fees. A robust reprocessing program **guarantees critical patient needs are met, decreases costs, and improves the environment.** A trifecta of success.

Background: Reprocessing has been a focus for our health system for many years with proven success. In July of 2021, our Health System strategically aligned the program, and our Utilization Management Team (UM) now provides direct oversight to drive growth and sustainability. Previously, our health system did not have dedicated FTEs to form partnerships with our staff, focus on collections, and provide data driven recommendations on products to be reprocessed.

With a dedicated focus on reprocessing, UM partners with Nursing and Peri-Op and Procedural leadership to promote collections education and process improvements to maximize utilization. Collections and savings data is reported to executive sponsors which provides accountability for program success, helping to spread awareness and gain further support across the health system.

Feedback from our physicians is vital. This communication is captured when using or adding additional reprocessed products. These products must perform to the standards required by our end users. We continued to expand our reprocessed product portfolio into multiple device categories by partnering with our physicians. Prior to bringing in a new line of products, we communicate the opportunity with those who would be using the product as well as offering trial periods and direct representation during the trial case.

Intervention Detail: To create a reprocessing program that brings optimized cost savings and waste reduction, our team generated an inclusive workflow including people, process, and technology transformation to assess and build a pipeline of products to reprocess and to sustain collections and purchasing. Tracking annual product spend and utilization data, our Utilization Management Team (UM) collaborates with our reprocessing partners to identify opportunities where a single-use product can be collected and reprocessed for potential cost savings. Our internal Business Applications and Analytics team compares these opportunities to our contractual commitments and determines the economical sustainability for reprocessing while maintaining compliance with our vendor partners.

Learning Objectives: [Nurse, Physician, General CE]

- Describe an effective reprocessing program portfolio that includes a cost-saving component.
- Describe the importance of clinical integration to a successful reprocessing program.

Economical

- \$1.2M savings 2022
- #2 Program based on spend in the region in 2022
- Avg. \$0.30 per pound return on products not purchased

Environmental

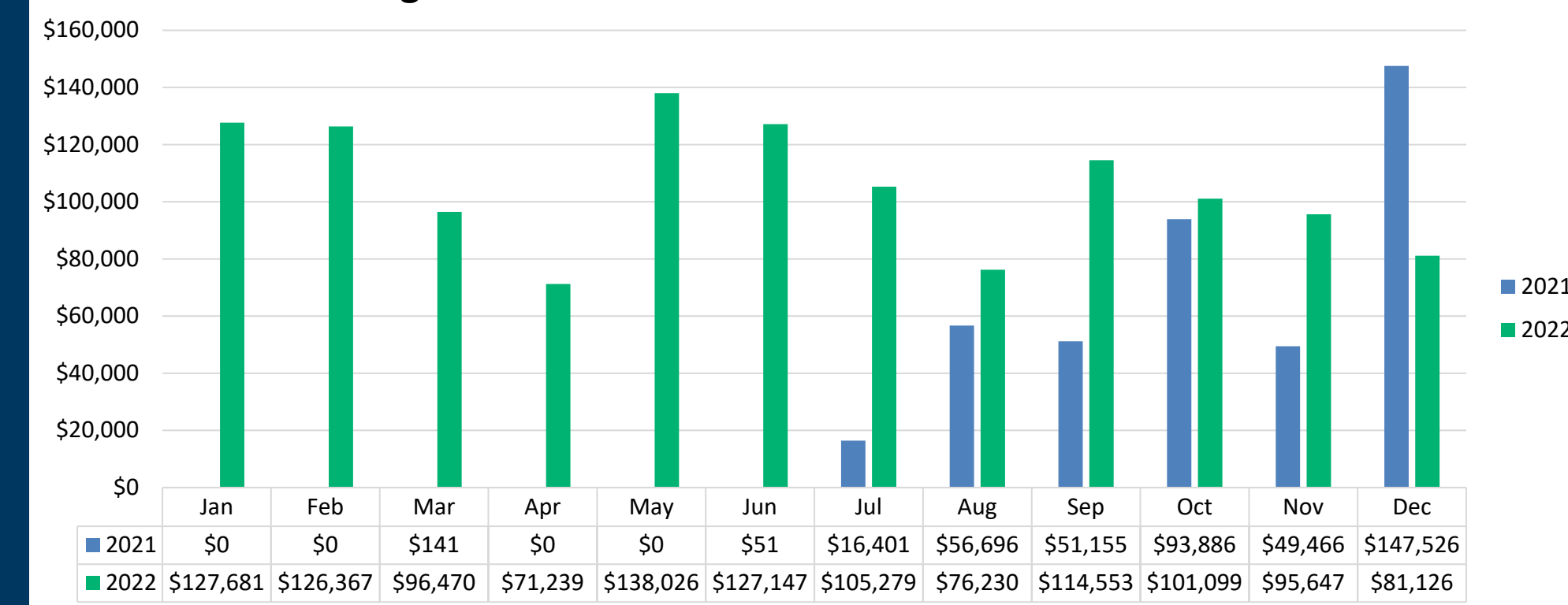
- 2022 Gold Award for Environmental Sustainability
- Waste Diversion: 6,912lbs.
 - Co2 Emission avoidance: 104 metric tons

Outcomes and Impact:

Savings by Clinical Area

Clinical Area	2022	2021
EP	\$356,956	\$265,300
Patient Care	\$398,595	\$122,147
OR	\$505,313	\$167,193

Year over Year Savings



Leadership Support

Governance Committee

Implementation Value Analysis

Clinical Supply Optimization

Utilization Management Procedural Supply Optimization

People – Processes – Technology Transformation

Patient Safety

Clinical

- Health System Expansion increases volume
- Goal to Maintain or Increase Quality Rating
- Defects reviewed by Patient Quality and Safety Team
- 99.98% quality rating with patients and staff

Operational

- 2021 Collections: 10,000+ products
- 2022 Collections: 27,000+ Products
- Defects captured through Safety Reporting System (SRS)

99.98% Patient & Staff Quality Rating

\$1.2M 2022 Savings

27,000+ Products collected 2022

6,912lbs Diverted waste

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