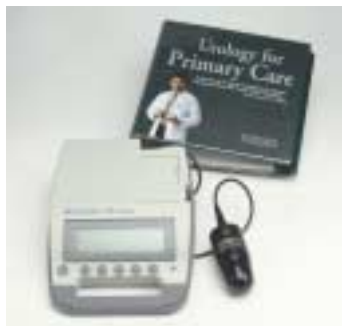


BladderScan Plays Key Role in New Training Video



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Bladder Volume Instrument Dramatically Reduces Incontinent Episodes by One

Million Dollars in Nursing Aid Time.

BOTHELL, Wash., May 3 /PRNewswire/ -- Diagnostic Ultrasound's BladderScan will be featured in a new clinical education video set to be released in mid-May by Wellspring Innovative Solutions, an alliance of 11 skilled nursing facilities based in Wisconsin. The video depicts line staff employees demonstrating proper use of the BladderScan and talking about the instrument's benefits to both patients and staff. The video will be used in new employee orientation and staff training.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20010503/SFTH003-a>
<http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20010503/SFTH003LOGO-b>)

The BladderScan uses noninvasive, ultrasound technology to rapidly reveal the amount of urine in a patient's bladder. The instrument's use in long-term care facilities translates into fewer catheterizations and resulting infections for residents. The BladderScan earned a priority slot in the video because it has dramatically reduced incontinent episodes in Wellspring facilities and is an integral part of a comprehensive incontinence program based on best practices.

"We have a total of 1,100 residents. In 1998 we prevented about 256,000 incontinent episodes based on gathering quarterly data on our residents who were incontinent. We know this because we compared net episodes from the year before," said Mary Ann Kehoe, executive director of Wellspring.

She added that the cost savings has been significant, too. "If you take somebody in a wheelchair to the bathroom, it takes eight minutes to get them there. By contrast, if there is an incontinent episode it takes 22 minutes to clean and tidy them up. We calculated projected savings of nearly one million dollars in nurse aide time total throughout the alliance," Kehoe said.

(Video: <http://www.videonewswire.com/DIS/050101/>)

An unexpected benefit of the BladderScan has been its popularity among line staff not only because it's easy to use but because it has improved working conditions. Kehoe said staff members are happier when there is less

incontinence. As for residents, she said the instrument is preserving the dignity of elderly residents and improving quality of life. "Catheterization is an invasion of privacy," said Kehoe, a registered nurse as well as an administrator.

Kehoe noted that the BladderScan training and other facets of the elimination and incontinence program are aimed at staff members closest to residents on a daily basis: housekeepers, nurse aides, laundry staff and others. BladderScan training is not done with housekeepers, but with nursing and restorative staff. However, the training module is interdisciplinary. The idea is to teach known best practices in clinical care to line staff so those around the residents every day can use what they learn to improve care.

Leslie Wooldridge, a geriatric nurse practitioner and co-owner of the Wellspring program, introduced the BladderScan to Wellspring facilities six years ago.

"One great thing about the BladderScan is that it's user friendly. We teach everyone to use it. And, because of the BladderScan we know when people really need to be catheterized, so people aren't catheterized on a toileting schedule any more," said Wooldridge.

She added that non-invasive procedures such as use of the BladderScan to determine appropriate care gives residents more quality of life on a day-to-day basis.

Diagnostic Ultrasound Corporation is a rapidly growing manufacturer and supplier of medical instruments with annual sales revenue of \$18 million in 2000 and 130 employees. The company serves customers through its own sales organization in the USA and an international distributor network covering more than 30 countries worldwide. Information about Diagnostic Ultrasound and its products can be found at the corporate website <http://www.dxu.com/> or by contacting Diagnostic Ultrasound at 21222 30th Drive SE, Ste 120, Bothell, WA by phone 800-331-2313 or by fax: 425-883-2896.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Fournier, Director of Marketing at 800-331-2313 x 1696 or <mailto:%20Kfournier@dxu.com>.

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