The Future of Endoscopy
STARTS NOW
Sterile Single-use Endoscopy
The single most important question in healthcare today is how to improve patient outcomes with the resources available. And as the world population increases and life expectancy expands, the pressure mounts on hospital budgets, workflow efficiency and, ultimately, patient safety.

Flexible endoscopes raise specific problems because they are costly to purchase, reprocess and repair, they are not always available when you need them, and their use risks exposing patients to infections.

We believe that the challenges in flexible endoscopy should be addressed with single-use devices, and for more than a decade we have been harnessing the technology. In 2009, we launched the world’s first single-use flexible endoscope: The Ambu® aScope™. Today, the aScope is used for pulmonary endoscopies in the OR and ICU at more than 3,000 hospitals across the globe. Single-use endoscopy has proven its worth in pulmonary endoscopy and the next step is to bring the advantages of single-use to other clinical areas.

Therefore, we now make you a promise: By the year 2020, we will offer sterile single-use scopes within the segments of pulmonary, urology, ENT and GI – including single-use duodenoscopes, gastrosopes and colonoscopes.

There is no doubt in our minds that a new and sterile scope for each and every patient is a great step forward for modern healthcare.

We are dedicated to making this future happen.

Lars Marcher
President & CEO
Ambu

We want to simplify endoscopy
There is a need for change in endoscopy
Increasing concern of cross-contamination is led by outbreaks
Reusable endoscopy
A complex and costly setup putting patients at risk

Single-use endoscopy
A simple and cost-effective setup eliminating infection risks

- **Risk of Cross-Contamination**
  - Despite increased reprocessing requirements, cross-contamination remains a major issue.

- **Eliminating Risk of Cross-Contamination**
  - Sterile out of the pouch. Personal scope for each patient, never been in contact with other patients.

- **Extensive Reprocessing Setup**
  - 100+ steps of cleaning, major surveillance and documentation burden.

- **No Reprocessing**
  - Scopes are discarded after use – no cleaning, documentation, surveillance or auditing on proper reprocessing.

- **Availability Issues**
  - Procedure delay or even cancellation due to unavailable scopes.

- **No Availability Issues**
  - No more “where is my scope?” Always a new scope at hand ensuring a fully functional scope for each patient.

- **High Cost-in-Use**
  - High capital investment plus repair and reprocessing costs.

- **Low Cost-in-Use**
  - Minimal upfront investment. No cost for repair, reprocessing or added investment when guidelines change.

- **Complex Contracting**
  - Complex and non-transparent contracts on scopes, repair etc. binding the hospital.

- **Transparent Contracting**
  - Increased flexibility and simplicity for the hospital.
In 2009, Ambu launched the world’s first single-use flexible endoscope

Ambu’s single-use visualization products used in more than 3,000 hospitals worldwide

More than ⅓ of our aScope customers already use aScope more than reusable scopes

Several major facilities have gone fully disposable on selected procedures

The convenience and the safety of having the scopes right here has been a game changer for us.

The two main advantages are: it is so quick, efficient and available that it allows us – in the patient who has a suspected pulmonary infection – to get in and get the appropriate microbiological sampling – often before the time the first dose of antibiotic is administered.

The second advantage, which is probably equally important, is it’s a disposable scope. In the ICU, we’re dealing with resistant organisms, and reusable scopes can be colonized. They can have their channels contaminated. With single-use scopes, you use it and throw it away. And you have a sterile new scope for the next patient. It’s great from an infection prevention point of view, as far as we’re concerned, as well.

Eric C. Feucht, MD
Critical Care Medicine and Medical Director of Respiratory Therapy
at Metro Health Hospital in Ann Arbor

By 2020, Ambu will provide single-use across all flexible endoscopy areas

Ambu will offer scopes within all flexible endoscopy areas including sterile, single-use HD duodenoscopes, colonoscopes and gastrosopes
A positive effect on your bottom line documented in multiple studies

In pulmonary endoscopy, we have shown the cost-savings of going single-use.

Cost-effectiveness has been demonstrated in multiple studies.

Reusable: Average cost burden of more than $350 for every procedure

Single-use: Cost of Ambu pulmonary scope $300 for every procedure

Comprehensive reprocessing is complex, time-consuming, and costly.

Despite being unable to account for every aspect of reprocessing, the costs are staggering – from $114.07 to $280.71 for one endoscope.

Cori L. Ofstead et al 2017
The basic design of the reprocessed endoscope has remained virtually unchanged for over half a century since the advent of the first flexible endoscope in the 1960s. The endoscopist, and device manufacturers, have been limited by the physical constraints of the endoscope working channel. A disposable platform can change this by enabling the development of endoscopes tailored to the requirements of the accessory. This can open new frontiers of endoscopic intervention.

Kenneth F. Binmoeller, MD, FACG, FASGEDirector, Interventional Endoscopy Services California Pacific Medical Center

I believe disposable endoscopy will play a very important role in gastroenterology. Patients are understandably concerned about recent reports of infection transmission. We need to explore the possibility of using disposable devices in GI endoscopy.

Klaus Mergener, MD, MBA, FASGE, FACP, FACPEAffiliate Professor of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

A cost-effective, sterile, single-use endoscopic portfolio for the GI space will instantly change the entire practice of gastroenterology. All the concerns with reprocessing and potential cross-contamination would be eliminated. When utilization begins, sterile, single-use endoscopes will represent a classic example of the term “disruptive technology” as applied to endoscopy.

Bergein (Gene) F Overholt, MD, Past President ASGE, Co-Founder of Gastrointestinal Associates, Knoxville, US

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2. ECRI institute https://www.ecri.org
4. FDA Reprocessing of Reusable Medical Devices: Information for Manufacturers https://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/ReprocessingandSterilization/ReprocessingofReusableMedicalDevices/