

# Custom made Mölnlycke® procedure trays create a calm work environment in a busy operating theatre

Operating room nurses have more time for the patients



'The advantage of a custom made Mölnlycke procedure trays is that also a less experienced circulating nurse can drape the patient quickly and safely, even outside the operating room.'

Dr. Paul Verrelst, Heart Surgeon



'Even with a pre-anaesthesia room, Mölnlycke procedure trays can contribute to greater efficiency because the circulating nurse can free up more time for the next patient or can help the scrub nurse in the operating room.'

Iene Gevaert, Head Nurse Logistics



'Mölnlycke procedure trays contribute to a pleasant work environment, less stress and better use of time – in one word, efficiency.'

Dr. Maurice Mommaerts,  
Maxillofacial Surgeon



'Both nurses and doctors who use Mölnlycke procedure trays are clearly satisfied with them.'

Dr. Hans Rigauts, Director-General



The use of Mölnlycke® procedure trays is supporting the growth of surgical activity at AZ Sint-Jan Bruges-Ostend. Moreover, it is making an essential contribution to the efficiency of the operating theatre, which is seeing its number of interventions increase by 10% each year. A huge time-saving, less running about and a more pleasant work environment ensure better patient care.

#### AZ Sint-Jan Bruges-Ostend in 2008

##### Campus Bruges

- 909 beds
- 44.875 admissions
- 254 doctors
- 2.790 employees, of which
  - 1.273 nurses
  - 957 employees in supporting services
- 15 operating rooms
- 3 new surgery rooms
- 18.743 interventions
- 47 surgeons
- 14 anesthetists
- 98 O.R. nurses
- 24 logistic workers

##### Campus Ostend

- 331 beds
- 10.752 admissions
- 70 doctors
- 739 employees, of which
  - 358 nurses
  - 238 employees in supporting services
- 7 operating rooms
- 9.739 interventions
- 22 surgeons
- 9 anesthetists
- 28 O.R. nurses

AZ Sint-Jan Bruges-Ostend is bursting with ambition. As the biggest hospital in West Flanders – the only Flemish province without a university hospital – it wants to take on the role of a reference centre that offers innovative care to citizens of all ranks and classes. ‘Approximately 40% of our activity is related to surgery,’ says Director-General Dr. Hans Rigauts. ‘A well-organised operating theatre that uses the right resources and expertise fits our strategy like a glove. Our surgery already has a reputation throughout the country for oral & maxillofacial surgery and bariatric surgery, and we are spearheading cardiac and neurosurgery, as well as robot surgery for urological and gynaecological interventions, plus thyroid gland surgery in the near future.’

Such ambition inevitably raises the issue of finance and the cost framework. The operating theatre already has 15 operating rooms and an extension of 3 new surgery rooms is forcing the organisation to look for the ideal combination of competency and high-end technology to achieve the reference ambitions on the one hand, and finance the desired patient care on the other. Efficiency is the key word, according to Dr. Rigauts. ‘That certainly applies to the operating theatre. An efficient operating theatre runs on realistic planning, which is connected seamlessly to the patient flow in the hospital,’ he says.

#### Oral & Maxillofacial: ‘A huge time saving’

Maxillofacial Surgeon Dr. Maurice Mommaerts agrees: ‘the operating schedule is quite busy at present. The number of operations increases by 10% each year, but our O.R. capacity remains the same. This is why it is essential for us to be able to save time between two operations and the Mölnlycke procedure trays solution really fills the need. The circulating nurse finishes preparing the next intervention much more quickly with the ready-to-use Mölnlycke procedure trays. Before Mölnlycke procedure trays, considerable time was lost getting the right single-use materials because the items that were pre-collected for the intervention were not always the right ones.’ This issue has been completely eliminated with the custom made Mölnlycke procedure trays. There is a consultation twice a year between the Head Nurse Logistics and Mölnlycke to evaluate the composition of the trays, but Dr. Mommaerts observes that there were hardly any changes made to them in the past year. ‘I can only give one piece of advice to operating theatres that want to switch to Mölnlycke procedure trays: be sure to do it. The time saving is huge.’

The time saving does not impact all types of interventions to the same extent. The surgery department makes a distinction between three types of interventions, for which the



development of Mölnlycke® procedure trays has been prioritised. Firstly, there are the highly-frequent interventions in day surgery, which are usually short in duration but occur frequently, such as knee arthroscopies. With these, minimising the set-up time between operations is crucial for the schedule. 'We work with pre and post-anaesthesia rooms, which leads to high numbers of operations and an efficient way of working', explains Head Nurse Logistics Iene Gevaert. 'But Mölnlycke procedure trays can contribute to even greater efficiency because the circulating nurse can free up more time for the next patient or can assist the scrub nurse in the operating room.' Filip Pareyn, Head Nurse Surgery, also notes that the nurse can dedicate more time to the patient. 'We can approach the patients more calmly, inform and reassure them in a better way, which reinforces the feeling of well-being.'

### Less running about for complex procedures

A second type of interventions, for which Mölnlycke procedure trays have recently been developed, are the very complex operations, such as heart surgery or robot surgery. As Iene Gevaert explains: 'Robot-controlled interventions are usually very complex and demand a substantial preparation time. It is an enormous advantage for the circulating nurse to have everything available in a single Mölnlycke procedure trays and to be able to drape the robot properly.'

Finally, urgent interventions also qualified, such as caesarean sections or trepanation in neurosurgery, where the nurse has little time to prepare the operation and must primarily concentrate on getting the patient ready. In this respect, Cardiac Surgery Nurse Nick Tant thinks that Mölnlycke procedure trays eliminates a great deal of frustration for the scrub nurse: 'In an emergency situation you want to have everything that the surgeon needs on the table immediately. It is frustrating

and unacceptable to keep a surgeon waiting because a draping set is unavailable, for example.'

Operational safety is the key term here according to Heart Surgeon Dr. Paul Verrelst: 'The advantage of a custom made Mölnlycke procedure tray is that also a less experienced circulating nurse can drape the patient safely and quickly, even outside the operating room. This helps, for example, when we put a patient on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in an emergency procedure.' Filip Pareyn, Head Nurse Surgery, expands the argument to newcomers: 'The use of Mölnlycke procedure trays is a plus point for new staff. They know for sure that everything that is needed is included in the tray and that they will not have to start looking for anything in the sometimes hectic conditions in an operating theatre. This certainly gives a reassuring feeling to a newcomer.'

### A pleasant working atmosphere

The fact that the Mölnlycke procedure trays offer certainty about the materials is reassuring in the O.R., but also offers asepsis advantages, according to Dr. Verrelst. 'There are three important advantages of the use of Mölnlycke procedure trays: the time-saving effect when preparing for the intervention; the time saving aspect of staff not walking around nervously looking for the right equipment; and a hygiene advantage because there is less dust formation now that we no longer use textile fabrics and now that there is less movement in and out of the operating room.' Dr. Mommaerts points out that the peace of mind is also important for doctors: 'when a Mölnlycke procedure trays is opened, everyone knows what it contains. Even when the circulating nurse is new, you as a surgeon know that you have the right materials readily at hand. Mölnlycke procedure trays contribute to a pleasant work environment, less stress and better use of time – in one word, efficiency.'

## Critical success factors

### The relationship with Mölnlycke

- Mutual confidence in each other's knowledge, right from the start
- Half-yearly review of all tray configurations
- Close cooperation when launching new trays

### In the operating theatre

- No waiting in-between highly frequent interventions
- Confidence in case of urgent interventions
- Less stress during complex operations
- Less running about for the circulating nurse
- Less dust formation
- More attention to the patient
- Less packaging waste

## Mölnlycke® Procedure Trays at your fingertips



- Simplified stock management in the O.R.



- Reduced set-up time between operations.



- Ensured availability of all equipment for a procedure.



- Less stress in the operating theatre.



- The circulating nurse has more time to support the scrub nurse.

## A reliable partner, right from the start



Head Nurse of the Central Sterilisation Department Yvan De Baere focused the hospital's attention on the use of Mölnlycke® procedure trays after he had visited the Mölnlycke production facility.

'The care and eye for detail all-over with which the trays were assembled confirmed my conviction that we had to go in this direction. Mölnlycke helped us to achieve the correct tray configurations, even when other items had to be included upon the surgeon's request. From the very beginning we received appropriate support from Mölnlycke's staff, who had the required expertise to advise our O.R. team on its choice. This created mutual trust, which was crucial for the

successful introduction of this new approach.' The hospital is supplied daily at present, which even enhances our partnership.

'The O.R. nurses find the cooperation with Mölnlycke really positive', says Iene Gevaert. 'When you call them they are always immediately available, when a new tray is launched they are with us on the work floor to observe the course of the procedure and to find the best way to assemble the tray. They also advise and assist us afterwards. A very reliable partner, on which we can count.'



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Iene Gevaert, Head Nurse Logistics



'For doctors who sub-specialise Mölnlycke procedure trays help to make life easier during advanced and occasionally more stressful interventions.'

Dr. Hans Rigauts, Director-General



'New employees know for sure that everything that is needed is included in a Mölnlycke procedure tray. This gives a reassuring feeling to a newcomer.'

Filip Pareyn, Head Nurse Surgery

Find out more at [www.molnlycke.com](http://www.molnlycke.com)

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