

Twice The Asset

In technical terms “hybrid” is a system that connects two technologies so they may benefit from each other. This also applies to the newest generation of operating theaters: Hybrid ORs combine diagnostic and surgical facilities which are usually found in separate locations. Thus procedures can be carried out in less time and involve less discomfort and risk for the patient.

November 15, 2010

The first thing a layperson associates with the term “hybrid” is the car. The hybrid car has an internal combustion engine as well as an electric motor with an energy storage device. In numerous other technologies "from clock to hard drive", this term also describes the pooling of several positive features for the benefit of the user. In the case of the hybrid operating theater, patients are the ones who benefit most, followed by physicians and hospitals.

As one of the pioneers in this area, the Maquet Group furnishes hospitals worldwide with innovative treatment rooms and knows why more and more hospitals decide in favor of the hybrid OR:

Imaging + Surgery Compared to conventional ORs, the hybrid OR also has large-scale imaging equipment which is mostly used for angiographies but also for the computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and makes imaging possible even during surgical interventions. The interaction between cardiologist and heart surgeon makes this into an OR with integrated cardiac catheter laboratory. In case of an emergency, surgical interventions can thus be carried out during vascular catheterization procedures in order to manage complications. This clearly lowers the risk and stress for the patient. In addition, the hybrid OR enables new therapies such as the minimally invasive cardiac valve reconstruction. Especially for patients who can no longer benefit from conventional therapy, the new treatment methods constitute a chance to noticeably increase the quality of life. Besides heart and vascular surgery, departments such as traumatology, neurology and orthopedics can use the new interdisciplinary options of the hybrid OR.

Well-equipped for the future All the above mentioned advantages of installing a hybrid OR require that hospitals effectively manage costs, planning and utilization. Specialists such as Maquet provide valuable support by supplying the necessary equipment and therapy solutions of this type of operating theater from a single source and furthermore offer physicians to get to know the advantages of a hybrid OR in the company’s own training facility.

That is why an increasing number of hospitals confront the task of offering their

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Published on Surgical Products (<http://www.surgicalproductsmag.com>)

patients the newest standard of treatment facilities in form of hybrid ORs. For twice the safety and a twofold benefit. (reference 2.824)

Source URL (retrieved on 01/27/2015 - 7:00pm):

<http://www.surgicalproductsmag.com/news/2010/11/twice-asset>