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## **Emerging evidence in infection control: effecting change regarding use of disposable laryngoscope blades.**

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of this evidence-based project was to determine the perceptions of anesthesia providers regarding the use of disposable laryngoscope blades. Frequency of use, ease of use, and complications encountered when using the disposable blade were evaluated before and after an in-service program designed to increase the use of disposable blades. Participants completed an anonymous questionnaire about their knowledge and practice regarding disposable laryngoscope blades. Then they received an investigator-developed article to read about the best and most recent practices regarding disposable laryngoscope blades. The same anonymous questionnaire was completed 3 months later. Inventory of the disposable laryngoscope blades was collected before the project and 1 and 3 months later. After the intervention, 25% of anesthesia providers described performance as their reason for not using the disposable laryngoscope blade, which was down from 60% at the project's start. Inventory showed a 23% increase in use of disposable laryngoscope blades after the intervention, which a single-proportion Z test showed was statistically significant ( $Z = 2.046$ ,  $P = .041$ ). This evidence-based project shows that a change in practice was evident after dissemination of the best and most recent clinical evidence regarding laryngoscope blades, which should translate to improved patient outcomes.