



The Welch Allyn
KleenSpec[®] Advantage
Metal vs. Disposable Vaginal Specula

WelchAllyn[®]

metal

vs.

disposable

The Choice is Clear



Welch Allyn KleenSpec® Disposable Vaginal Specula

- **Enhance efficiency:** Spend less time cleaning and disinfecting metal specula
- **Reduce costs:** Save over \$8,000 per year in cleaning and maintenance costs associated with metal specula
- **Improve patient safety:** Disposable design helps reduce the risk of cross-contamination
- **Make patients comfortable:** Smooth acrylic improves patient comfort during an exam

The Cost Savings is Clear

disposable

\$8,285

TOTAL ANNUAL COST SAVINGS

Metal Vaginal Specula*	
Purchase of Autoclave	\$900
Training of Staff	\$113
Reprocessing Time <i>(includes soaking, cleaning, rinsing, placing in and removal from autoclave, replacement in exam rooms)</i>	\$13,666
Annual Cleaning Solution Cost	\$650
Weekly Testing of Autoclave	\$911
Recordkeeping	\$911
Purchase of Inventory	\$260
Total Annual Expense	\$17,411

Disposable Vaginal Specula	
Pelvic Exams (Quantity: 75/week)	
Cost of Disposable	\$2.34
Cost per Site/week	\$176
Total Annual Expense	\$9,126

*Estimated annual expense of metal specula based on one-time purchase of autoclave (\$4500) capitalized over five years; annual staff training time based on initial training course plus annual audit meeting for one registered nurse at salary rates published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2011, see <http://www.bls.gov/oes/2011/may/oes291111.htm>; annual autoclave testing and recordkeeping costs each based on 30 minutes of weekly staff time; annual reprocessing time costs based on approx. 1.5 hours of staff time per day; inventory purchase based on purchase of five metal specula per year at rates cited by Gynex Corporation prices published in 2013, see: <http://gynexcorporation.com/stainlesssteel-2.aspx>.

The Time Savings is Clear

Process to use:

Metal Vaginal Specula	
STEP 1	Clinician Conducts Pelvic Exam
STEP 2	Contain & Transport Contaminated Specula
STEP 3	Clean Specula
STEP 4	Disinfect & Sterilize
STEP 5	Inspect & Restock
Time Spent Per Day: 1.75 hour	

disposables

SAVE
455 HOURS
EACH YEAR

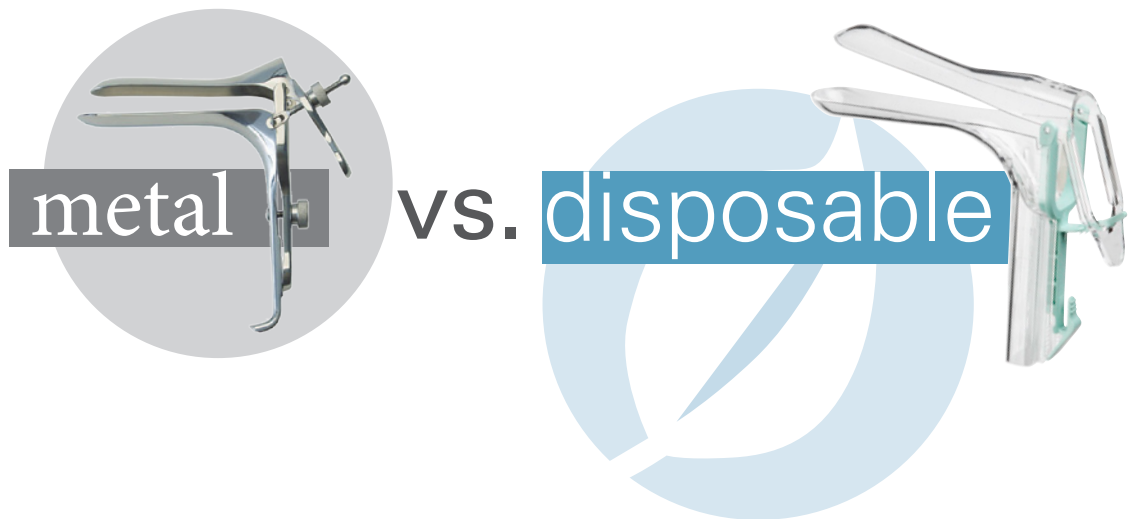
Disposable Vaginal Specula	
STEP 1	Clinician Conducts Pelvic Exam
STEP 2	Dispose Specula
STEP 3	Move On
Time Spent Per Day: Virtually None	

Make A Clear Improvement in Patient Safety

Disposable vaginal specula reduce these patient safety risks of metal specula:

- Cleaning and sterilizing procedures that are not always followed, which increases the risk of cross-contamination
- Reprocessing can alter the specula surface, resulting in the potential for device failure or malfunction





Metal Vaginal Specula Have An Environmental Impact You May Be Missing—

- Reprocessing involves the use of powerful detergents, disinfectants, solvents, and plastics which all end up as dangerous waste products²
- Resterilization almost always requires the use of ethylene oxide (EtO) or sporicidal disinfectants, both of which are harmful to the environment²
- Facilities frequently release persistent bioaccumulative toxins (PBTs) when medical chemical waste is incinerated. PBTs are long-lived toxic chemicals that have been linked to serious human and ecological health problems³

Sources:

¹Guide for Addressing Environmental Problems:
Using an Integrated Strategic Approach.
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/policies/assistance/strategicguide.pdf>

²A New Prescription: Pollution Prevention Strategies for the Health Care Industry; Source: Boston University Corporate Education Center.
http://archive.org/stream/newprescriptionp00newp/newprescriptionp00newp_djvu.txt

³Pollution Prevention Northwest; Source: Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center.
www.pprc.org/pubs/newsletter/news1001.html



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