

**Issue: Disposable Laerdal Resuscitators (Bag & Mask)**

Raised by: Professional Practice Nurses

Background: Approved emergency equipment lists require resuscitators in both the Resuscitation Trolley and the Emergency Response Kit. Top End Remote Staff are currently making up the emergency kits, and in several sites Health Centres are needing to purchase additional resuscitators.

Discussion: The cost and sterilisation issues of Laerdal resuscitators are the major considerations in the replacement and purchase of new equipment. The cost of disposable resuscitators (adult, paediatric, and infant) is currently \$48.50. There is a considerable saving against the reusable type and removes any need for sterilisation.

Quality of disposable units now means use of these units is not essentially different from using non-disposable, and this trend to disposable resuscitators is wide spread in the industry.

Replacement of stock following use, could be managed by Health Centres maintaining one extra unit on hand for immediate replacement, with the PPN's holding additional stock to allow for subsequent replacement of the spare. (A process for ordering certain stock held by the PPNs will be described shortly. A list will be provided to detail the inventory of what the PPNs hold.)

Consultation: St John Ambulance

References: Quoted prices from Laerdal and Ferno

Outcome: When replacement of resuscitators is required, disposable units are now the standard.

Existing non-disposable resuscitators should continue to be used where functional, but should no longer be purchased when re-equipping.