

# Sustainable Operating Rooms

## TAHSN Sustainable Operating Room Score Card Summary

### Background

This document presents the results of a benchmarking exercise across TAHSN, using a novel scorecard that reviews 4 areas of environmental impact: anesthetic gases, reusables, waste management, and energy management. Informed by a literature review and guideline development process, the scorecard was designed, revised, and completed through discussions with expert stakeholders across TAHSN. As of July 5th, we had received input from 55 (of n=65) informants from all of the TAHSN ORs (n=13).

### Status

Green Operating Room Initiatives	Number of ORs		
<b>ANESTHETIC GASES</b>			
<b>Avoid desflurane</b>	5	3	5
<b>Use <math>\leq 0.5\text{L}/\text{min}</math> fresh gas flow</b>	8	4	1
<b>RESUABLES</b>			
<b>Extend use of disposable anesthesia breathing circuits</b>	6	1	6
<b>Use reusable laryngeal mask airways (LMAs)</b>	3	4	6
<b>Use reusable linens - Sterile surgical gowns</b>	3	1	9
<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>			
<b>Ensure accurate hazardous waste segregation</b>	6	0	7
<b>Implement effective waste reduction/recycling program</b>	5	2	6
<b>Use specialized custom packs with procedure-specific supplies</b>	8	3	2
<b>ENERGY MANAGEMENT</b>			
<b>Reduce energy consumption from HVAC systems</b>	7	3	3
<b>Reduce energy use from operating room lights</b>	3	9	1



Achieves the sustainability strategy



In the process of achieving/partially achieves the sustainability strategy



Does not achieve the sustainability strategy or we are unsure/do not have enough data from the hospital

### Summary of Recommendations

For anesthetic gases, removing desflurane from the hospitals formulary and using  $\leq 0.5\text{L}/\text{min}$  fresh gas flow is the change that the scorecard wants to encourage. For reusables, we recommend hospitals focus on the reuse of breathing circuits, laryngeal mask airways, and linens. For waste management, minimizing and accurately segregating the biohazardous waste stream (i.e., sharps, cytotoxic, and regular biohazardous), creating custom packs with less equipment and improved recycling programs for blue sterile wrap, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic, and single-use items that can be remanufactured to serve more patients.