

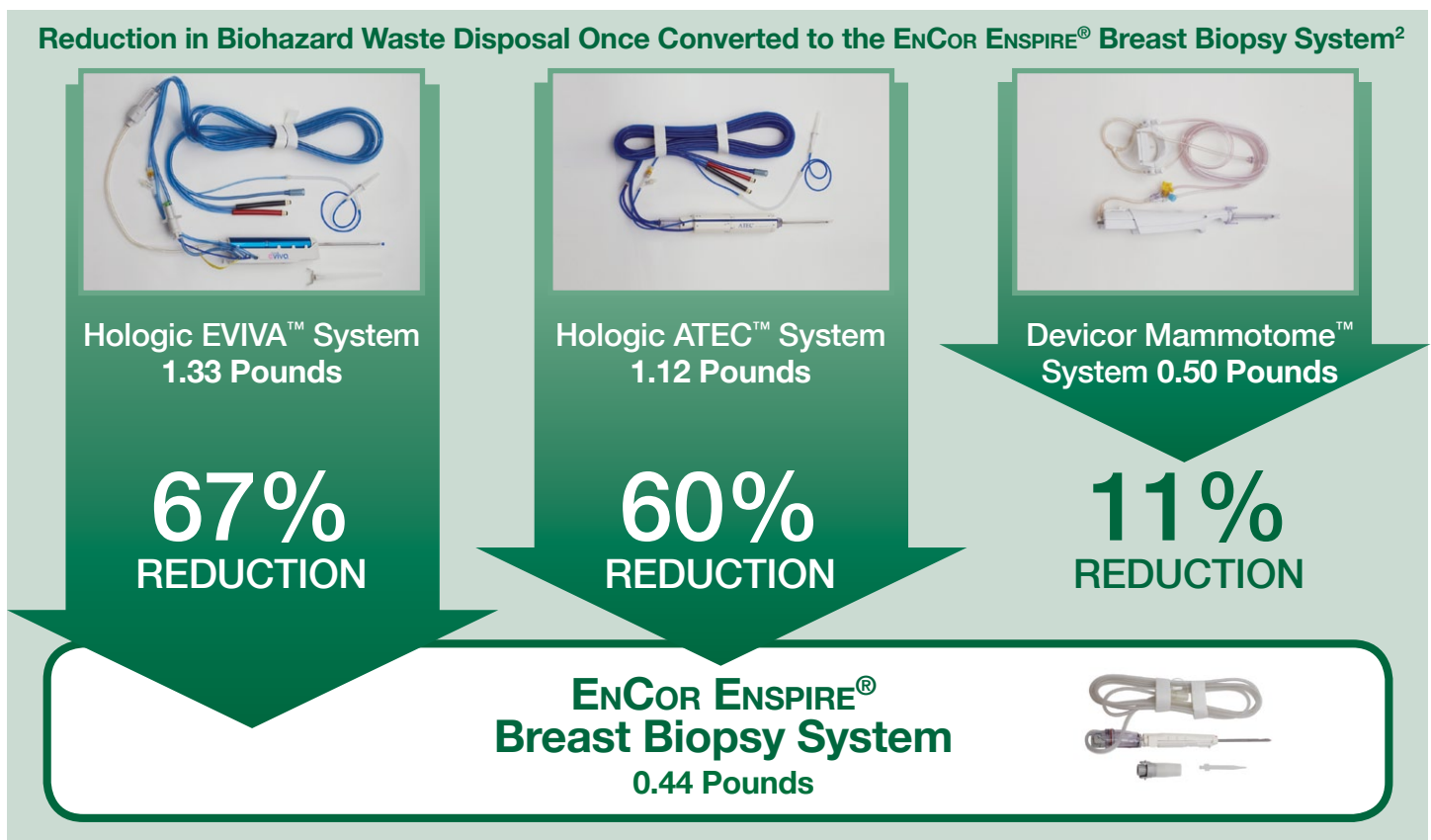
Medical Procedure Waste Disposal Impact on Practice Costs

A Comparison of Vacuum-Assisted Biopsy Systems

As healthcare organizations have become increasingly concerned with both environmental impacts and cost reduction, minimizing biohazardous waste has become an important priority. For most hospitals and surgical centers, Regulated Medical Waste (RMW)—which costs 5 to 10 times more to dispose of than non-hazardous waste—comprised 5 to 15% of their waste disposal volume.¹

ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System Reduces Waste By Up to 67%

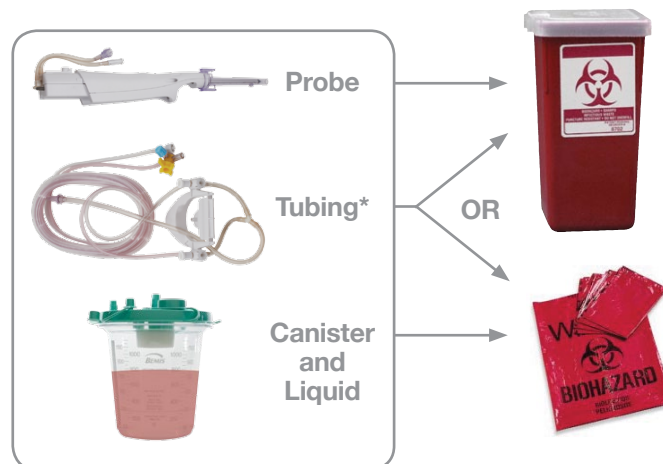
Disposal of probes and tubing used during Vacuum Assisted Biopsy (VAB) procedures generates RMW. When compared to competitive systems, the ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System generates up to 67% less RMW per use.



Waste Disposal Procedures³

While waste management protocols vary by state, the most common protocol is illustrated below.

- 1) **Probes** are disposed of in the sharps container.
- 2) **Tubing** can be disposed of in the biohazard (red) bag if it is separated from the probe. Otherwise, it must be placed in sharps container.
- 3) **Canisters** are most frequently capped with liquid waste contained inside and disposed of in the red bag.



The cost of acquiring OSHA-compliant sharps containers is higher than that of red bags, therefore, systems that require tubing to be disposed of in sharps containers can result in higher costs.

*Tubing of the ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System and Mammotome™ System can be disconnected from the probe and placed in a biohazard (red) bag; Hologic ATEC™ and EVIVA™ must be disposed of in the sharps container.



“I have found that the ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System disposables are smaller and since I have gone from the Mammotome™ to the ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System my disposables have gone down and my cost has gone down.”

Jason Hechtman, M.D.F.A.C.S., Medical Director, The Breast Institute at Brandon Regional Hospital, 15 breast biopsies weekly.

Cost Impact of Medical Waste Reduction

Reducing the mass of RMW per breast biopsy may result in **substantial monthly and annual savings** for hospitals, surgical centers, or physician offices in which the procedures are performed. Disposal costs vary by state, due to differences in regulation and disposal resources, but costs in most states range between **\$0.20 and \$0.50 per pound**.

Annual Waste Disposal Comparison Based on Biopsy Volume

Number of Procedures Annually	180	360	600
	15/month	30/month	50/month
Bard Biopsy ENCOR ENSPIRE® System	79	158	264
Hologic ATEC™ System	202	403	672
Hologic EVIVA™ System	239	479	798
Devicor Mammotome™ System	90	180	300
(weight in pounds)			

“Mixtures of wastes which are **simultaneously regulated medical wastes and hazardous wastes** present special disposal challenges. Many hazardous waste haulers are not equipped to handle medical wastes. Few medical waste disposal facilities have permits to accept hazardous wastes. The best course of action for a healthcare facility is to minimize the amount of this type of waste.”⁵

HERC – Healthcare Environmental Resource Center

Study Description – Conducted by Bard Biopsy Systems, the study included the ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System, Hologic ATEC™ System, Hologic EVIVA™ System, and Devicor Mammotome™ System.

Engineering tests were performed utilizing the latest available packaged products. The weight of the disposable probe and tubing was measured with a mass balance. Due to differences in breast biopsy system operation, canister and fluid weights were omitted from the study.

Please consult product labels and inserts for any indications, contraindications, hazards, warnings, precautions and directions for use.

Jason Hechtman, M.D.F.A.O.S. is currently a consultant for Bard Biopsy Systems, a business unit of Bard Peripheral Vascular.

1. Practice Greenhealth; <http://practicegreenhealth.org/topics/waste/waste-categories-types>
 2. Data represents average weight of 5 samples. The probes used for comparison were the largest gauge size available for each console system.
 3. OSHA C29 CFR 1910.1030 (d) (4) (iii) (C)
 4. Ultrasound and stereotactic probes available in 7g, 10g, and 12g probe sizes. MRI probes available in 7g, 10g, and 10g blunt tip probe sizes.
 5. HERC – Healthcare Environmental Resource Center; <http://www.hercenter.org/rmw/treatment.cfm#haz>

Other ways the ENCOR ENSPIRE® Breast Biopsy System can reduce costs.

- Reduced inventory: Only one needle for all lesion types⁴
- Streamline purchasing: Multiple products from single provider
- Ergonomic design: Improves technologists' efficiency and performance
 - Snap-in tubing cassette
 - Top-load canister
 - Compact, maneuverable system



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