MEDCO FORUM®

PRESENTING INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS & SERVICES TO HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 34 SEPTEMBER 2007

REPRINT

THE OLYMPUS ENF-V2 VIDEO RHINOLARYNGOSCOPE

Achieving the Highest Standard of Care through Superb Imaging Quality

Endoscopic examination is used extensively in the field of otorhinolaryngology for the diagnosis and treatment of various medical conditions. Ongoing research and clinical studies have increased the understanding of disease progression and generated useful new treatment strategies and innovative technologies for managing disease. In recent years, otorhinolaryngologists have shown an increased need for enhanced medical imaging as they continually strive to improve the quality and standard of patient care. In response, **Olympus Corporation (Tokyo, Japan)**, sought to create a system that would not only deliver outstanding image quality, but would be easier to navigate within the pharynx, larynx and nasal cavity. It's response: The **ENF-V2 Video RhinoLaryngoscope.** An ultra-thin rhinolanryngoscope with an advanced miniature color CCD chip for high resolution "chip-on-the-tip" technology and Narrow Band Imaging™ compatibility, the ENF-V2 Video RhinoLaryngoscope can boast of an external diameter of only 3.2mm, which is 0.7mm smaller than that of a conventional fiberscope. The ENF-V2 Video RhinoLaryngoscope delivers outstanding imaging performance with some of the brightest and most vivid images available from a rhinolaryngoscope.

Robert W. Bastian, MD, of the Bastian Voice Institute (Downers Grove, IL), is an internationally-recognized authority in the treatment of voice, airway, and swallowing disorders. Dr. Batian remarks that "In laryngology, one of the pillars upon which we rest our diagnosis is the image of the larynx. A very skilled history and an assessment of the voice's capabilities and limitations are the first and second pillars, and the third is a very good image of the larynx. So we practitioners depend upon endoscopic equipment manufacturers to make instruments that will deliver those extremely clear pictures. And that, of course, is what Olympus has done so well for many years now."

The Olympus ENF-V2 Video RhinoLaryngoscope

Until recently, it was assumed that using an endoscope with a larger diameter was the only way to obtain superior image quality and that the thinner distal end of fiberscopes inexorably meant reduced image quality. Those thoughts have changed with the development of the Olympus ENF-V2 Video RhinoLaryngoscope. The ultra-thin diameter of the ENF-V2 can be used in small cavities, as the slim design eases insertion while enabling clearer observation.

The Olympus ENF-V2 Video Rhino-Laryngoscope has an external diameter of 3.2mm.

Dr. Bastian finds the slimness of the scope to be an advantage. "Nobody wants anything bigger than it has to be to go through their nose. There is also that small subset of patients for whom the slimmer scope becomes highly useful; these are the patients with a nasal anatomy that makes it difficult to get the larger scope through. It makes quite a difference using the smaller caliber scope."

The wide field-of-view and optimal angulation capabilities facilitate maneuverability within the nasal and nasopharyngeal lumens. The all-in-one design features an integrated light-guide cable, distally mounted CCD and an ergonomic construction that makes the scope easy to operate, minimizing operator fatigue. Four switches on the control section can be customized for quick activation of frequently used functions, including digital zoom.

The ENF-V2 Video RhinoLaryngoscope features Olympus' proprietary **Narrow Band Imaging™ (NBI),** a real-time, on-demand technology developed to enhance visibility of the capillary network and other miniscule structures on mucosal surfaces. Narrowband light is absorbed and scattered differently in the mucosa compared to white light. This emphasizes the contrast between small vessels and normal tissue as well as minute structures within the upper mucosa layers. The improved visibility provided by NBI may improve examination efficiency by helping to reduce examination time and may also facilitate better biopsies.

"NBI piggy-backs on top of the excellent quality images that Olympus already delivers," states Dr. Bastian. "Distal chip images in general are really a fantastic advance from the fiberoptic images, and now NBI brings an add-on capability in our quest for clear visual information." Dr. Bastian continues: "NBI is a technology that accentuates vascularity. It is what I call an 'eye magnet,' meaning, it attracts one's attention to certain areas of interest that we may want to zero in on to have a better look at the vascularity. NBI also helps to accentuate those very faint, hazy white lesions that can be so subtle or inconspicuous that you could fail to appreciate them with standard light." Dr. Bastian notes that NBI is not something that he uses exclusively. "I use NBI because it allows me to see things in a different way, and then I switch back to standard light where I can look at a specific area that needs further attention."

Dr. Bastian closes by saying, "The support given to clinicians' work by Olympus and the company's interest in finding the next technological advancement is really commendable. The company makes excellent equipment, but I really like the way it is always focusing on the future and developing new products."

To Learn More

For more information, please visit www.olympussurgical.com, or contact a company representative at 1-800-548-5515.