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Computerized system boosts patient safety

By Doug Smock
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A fascinating product on display in a very low-key manner at MD&M East in Philadelphia last week shows future trends in both medical care and plastics contract manufacturing in the United States.

Mack Molding (Arlington, VT) showed the first computer-assisted personalized sedation (CAPS) system. Developed by Sedasys, a Division of Ethicon Endo-Surgery, the system is said to reduce risks associated with oversedation and facilitate faster patient recovery. Plus, anesthesiologists do no need to be involved for procedures such as colonoscopies.



"The Sedasys System has the potential to redefine sedation delivery by enabling physician-led teams to administer minimal-to-moderate propofol sedation, personalized to the needs of each patient, by precisely integrating drug delivery and comprehensive patient monitoring," according to a statement by the company. An estimated 15 million patients in the U.S. are candidates for these procedures.

In addition to receiving device-specific training, the member of the physician-led team who is administering sedation receives training in the management of cardiorespiratory effects of propofol. It's expected to be introduced on a limited basis beginning in 2014.

"The Sedasys System will address the growing preference for propofol sedation in gastroenterology by more closely matching the skill level of the sedation delivery team with the actual requirements of less complex cases," said Daniel Pambianco, Medical Director, Charlottesville Medical Research, Charlottesville, Va., and Principal Investigator. "The technology will empower health care facilities to more effectively use their limited resources to deliver greater value in the increasingly resource-constrained U.S. health care environment."

From a contract manufacturing perspective, it shows the growing importance of projects that encompass more than injection molding. Mack produces 18 components in the sedation system.

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