

# Green endoscopy: Step by step to a paper free endoscopy unit

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Presentation

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**This presentation outlines a practical framework for transitioning endoscopy units to paper-free operations through digital workflow optimization and sustainable procurement, emphasizing multidisciplinary team formation, pilot implementation, and addressing legal and patient engagement barriers.**

## KEY POINTS

- The speaker describes two complementary pillars for paper-free units: digital workflow (directly controllable by units) and sustainable procurement chain (requiring vendor engagement on packaging and carbon footprint).
- Implementation strategy includes forming a multidisciplinary team with clinical, nursing, IT, and administrative leads, creating a business case showing cost savings and CO2 reduction, and starting with a pilot in one procedure room or focused goal like digital consent.
- The speaker reports that European Commission legislation passed in July permits companies to stop sending leaflet inserts with packaging delivered to healthcare professionals, though implementation has not yet been observed in Greece.
- Common barriers include temporary workflow slowdown during transition, staff resistance addressed through training and champion involvement, and legal obstacles particularly around GDPR compliance for electronic patient communication.
- The speaker's survey of over 500 patients found 40% were elderly, 30% lacked smartphones, and 90% did not feel secure receiving medical information electronically, highlighting patient engagement as a major implementation challenge.
- The speaker recommends engaging suppliers on packaging design and recyclable materials, celebrating small milestones, and seeking industry support while acknowledging that procurement decisions often lie outside unit control.

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