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Many Benefits of using The Lightman® at Kendal

The Electrode Company Ltd specialises in non-invasive monitoring, optical sensors and high performance pulse oximetry. The Westmorland General Hospital in Kendal, has been using The Lightman® Sensor Tester Microspectrometer for six months, and finds it invaluable for the detection of faulty pulse oximeter probes and cables.

Mike Hale is the Medical Engineering Manager at the hospital who has taken the lead in using The Lightman® to detect breaks in the cables and provide readings on the accuracy of the LED's in the pulse oximeters. He said: "This is a really useful tool. Previously we had nothing to test the finger probes and could not isolate the fault between the monitor and the probe. It was also inconvenient to track things down on the ward and in theatre."

Mr Hale continues: "We have found The Lightman® to be quick and simple to use. It is portable, straightforward to operate and, reassuringly, it calibrates itself before each sensor assessment. Using simulators on the wards is difficult. Batches of pulse oximeter cables from one supplier can have over 30% faults. We detected a problem with wires soldered to a transistor in the moulded plugs, so could advise the manufacturer of a design fault. We have also found 2 or 3 probes unacceptably inaccurate in our six months, which could have compromised patient outcomes."

In conclusion Mike Hale said: "At present we share The Lightman® with two other neighbouring hospitals. So important to our quality control is the device, that we are reluctant to let it go for anything more than the allocated time."

For further information on The Lightman®, please telephone The Electrode Company on 01291 650279, or visit www.electro.co.uk

The Electrode Company: Ensuring accurate data for better clinical outcomes.

