



INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

GRAND AWARDS

INNOVATORS

MULTIMEDIA

CATEGORIES



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HEALTH

ClearCount SmartSponge

Surgical sponges that know where they are

[Comments](#)

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ClearCount sponges pull double lifesaving duty. After soaking up blood during a surgery, they alert docs before they can be accidentally sewn up inside a patient—a potentially fatal mistake that requires a lengthy hospital stay and antibiotics to clear up. A table-side scanner keeps continuous tabs on the location of the radio-frequency ID tag securely embedded in each sponge and counts how many have gone into the patient. Once the doctor finishes the operation, he simply waves the RFID wand over the patient to ensure that he or she is sponge-free.

\$20-\$30/procedure; [clearcount.com](#)

HEALTH WINNERS



HEALTH

Neuronetics NeuroStar TMS Therapy System

A helmet for happiness



HEALTH

3M/Littmann Electronic Stethoscope Model 3200 With Zargis Cardioscan

The scope that never misses a beat



HEALTH

El Camino Hospital

The home of high-tech health care



HEALTH

Xhale HyGreen

A wireless sensor in hospitals tracks which staffers are scrubbing up properly, and tags those who aren't



HEALTH

TruFocals

The first glasses with adjustable focus



HEALTH

Filligent Limited BioMask

A flu-killing mask



HEALTH

Xela Innovations Purleve Hygienic Door Handle

A doorknob that never gets dirty



HEALTH

InSound Medical Lyric Hearing Aid

The all-day-and-night hearing aid



HEALTH

ClearCount SmartSponge

Surgical sponges that know where they are



HEALTH

Hothead Technologies for Football Helmets

A helmet that protects your body



HEALTH

SAM Medical Celox Trauma Gauze

A bandage for blood and burns



HEALTH

Medical Acoustics Lung Flute

Music to your lungs