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WELCOME to the Spring Edition of the IDSc journal, bringing with it warmer weather and a sense of optimism! We are now seemingly expected to carry on as if Covid never existed, and I find it unsettling that we can go from what a state of national emergency to 'back to normal' in the space of a few weeks. Speaking for my own department and knowing a little of what goes on in surrounding trusts, I know we are still seeing a high proportion of Covid cases, regardless of how relaxed the government may feel.

Speaking of the government, they are soon to release their 6 year plan to reduce waiting lists. We can only hope that they have included the need for adequate support services and haven't just focussed on the 'frontline' staff.

After the loss of **Tom Redfern**, it is with great sadness that we now also have to report on the passing of **Gareth Jones** of Audair Medical Services Ltd

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who passed away suddenly on the 6th February. Gareth was well known in the Decontamination world and alongside his business partner, **Ken Milner**, had been an avid supporter of the IDSc and its conference for over 20 years. He will be sorely missed by everyone here.

Planning for this year's conference is now full steam ahead. It will be held at the Eastside Rooms Birmingham, 28-30th November 2022 and if early indications are anything to go by it will be a packed event with the focus very much on education, innovation and new technologies.

Our paper in this edition focuses on a different way of doing things 'Pay-per-use endoscope reprocessor's are a perfect fit for Great Western Hospital' A big thanks to **David Stephenson** (Freelance Writer and Consultant Editor) who provided this excellent piece and without him we would have very little to present.

I have been actively involved with the supply chain on the new detergent tendering process so I thought it was apt to rerun an article titled 'Detergents for cleaning of re-usable medical devices' provided by **Richard Bancroft** B.Sc (Hons) Science and Technical Director for STERIS Corporation. Registered Authorising Engineer (Decontamination), UKRi.

For anyone else who would like to assist the NHS supply chain the offer below still stands, please see below:

NHS SBS and I are keen to engage with our customers to engage and recruit stakeholders to help shape your/our new framework agreement

surrounding Decontamination services and solutions to ensure it covers all possible requirements.

Engagement has already progressed with the supplier base and they are extremely keen to be part of this new framework agreement.

If your current contract is due up, or are looking to refresh your agreements, or you simply wish to help with the development of this framework including with the evaluations please contact simon.davis7@nhs.net

The tender is likely to be launched in February to the suppliers with evaluations taking place in April.

Once again, sadly, there has been a distinct lack of articles provided for this edition. The continued production of a hard copy journal exists thanks solely to papers sent in by our members and suppliers so I would actively encourage all of our membership and suppliers to contribute to it. If you would like any particular subject to be covered, please let me know. This is your journal, and we're all working to the same goal, so let's make it work for us!

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Thanks.

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