

BD PureWick™

An innovative and sustainable approach to manage female urinary incontinence.

BD PureWick™ Environmental Life Cycle Analysis (LCA)

Analysis independently completed by⁴ 

Critically reviewed by 

Introduction

In 2021, approximately 39 billion incontinence products were sold around the world¹. This contribution to waste underscores the pressing challenge of managing the ecological footprint of these products, a challenge that is set to grow as the global population ages.

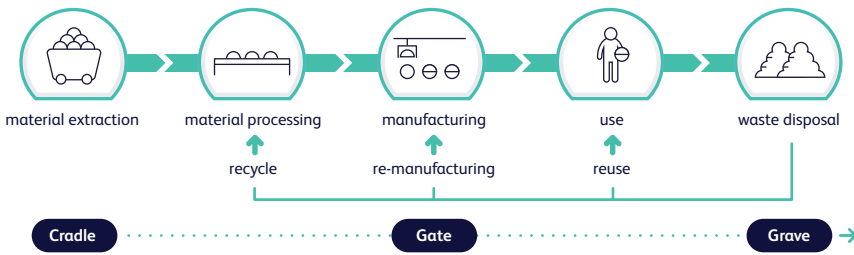


The range of products in question includes absorbent pads, diapers, catheters, and other specialised external devices. The environmental toll of disposing these products is considerable, contributing to increased carbon emissions and substantial financial costs.

Due to the increased focus on sustainable practices, particularly in the healthcare sector, the environmental impact of incontinence products demands immediate attention.

Methodology⁵

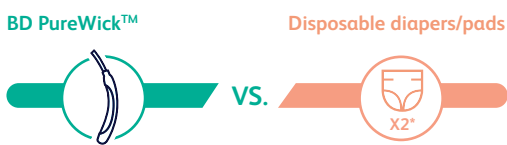
The Life Cycle Assessment: A holistic view of the environmental impacts³:



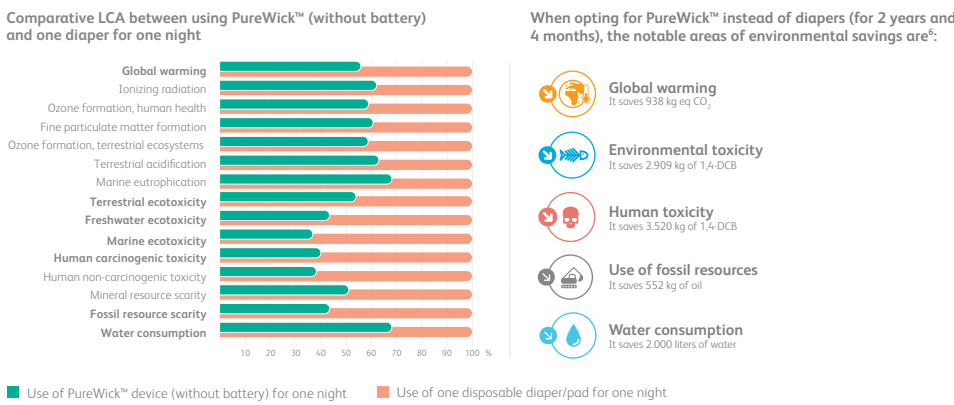
Cradle-to-gate - Raw materials, processing and manufacturing.
Cradle-to-grave - Raw materials to end-of-life.

This assessment considered impacts from cradle to grave.

Results



When comparing the two scenarios, it is clear that the PureWick™ system offers a significantly lower environmental impact than traditional diaper use, highlighting its eco-friendly advantage.



Conclusion

The PureWick™ system is a sustainable option for incontinence care, addressing a range of environmental concerns². When compared to using two diapers overnight, PureWick™ generates much less waste than traditional absorbent hygiene products⁷. PureWick™ appears to be a highly reliable medical solution that addresses the issue of female urinary incontinence, with a reduced impact on the environment.

For any additional questions, please contact Nontokozi Ndimande at: nontokozi.ndimande@bd.com

References :

1. An Urge to Act, the Health, socio-economic and environmental costs of continence problems in the EU, p.13.
2. Life Cycle Assessment, BD PureWick™, 2024, p.61.
3. The LCA methodology for the BD PureWick™ system is meticulously designed to align with ISO 14040 and ISO 14044 standards, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of the environmental impacts throughout the product's lifecycle. This assessment employs SimaPro software alongside the ecoinvent database to analyze the environmental performance specifically for women with urinary incontinence over a single night. The assessment focuses on the global "ReCiPe 2016 Midpoint (H)" impacts, ensuring the study covers a broad spectrum of environmental concerns.
4. Those two entities are Primum Non Nocere and Covivance.
5. Life Cycle Assessment, BD PureWick™, 2024, p. 7.
6. Life Cycle Assessment, BD PureWick™, 2024, p. 66.
7. Comparison is between two diapers, and PureWick™ without a battery.

Please consult product labels and instruction for use for indications, contraindications, hazards, warnings, and precautions

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