

Integrating automated dispensing cabinets, electronic prescribing and robotic dispensing systems for improved safety and efficiency.

Customer profile

The Isle of Wight NHS Trust is a fully integrated provider for acute, community, mental health and ambulance service. The hospital already had a ward level electronic prescribing system in operation for two years when they decided to take the next step in patient safety and automation by installing Omnicell® automated medication dispensing cabinets in all care areas.



The solution

The implementation covered 15 wards with a range of specialities. Omnicell cabinets at the Trust provide a real-time interface with electronic prescribing to fully automate the dispensing of prescribed medication whilst also automating the reordering of stock - including controlled drugs. The system also fully integrates with Omnicell's robotic dispensing system used in the hospital pharmacy.

Goals of implementation:

- Integrate Omnicell cabinets, the robotic dispensing system and the hospital's EPMA system
- Provide safer drug selection taking advantage of existing electronic prescribing technology
- Automate reordering of ward medication saving pharmacy time and reducing drug stockouts
- Introduce electronic controlled drug register saving time and providing real-time tracking and alerts regarding discrepancies
- Reduce medication consumption levels through improved control and tracking of usage

"We have much better stock control and expiry date management, and it's really easy to use even in an emergency."

Jackie Harry, NICU Ward, Isle of Wight NHS Trust

Integrating technologies creates greater efficiency

Results

- 24% Reduction in ward medication stock
- 11% Reduction in medication spend
- Increased patient safety due to safety features that confirm the right drugs are selected
- Increased patient time due to reduced nurses time preparing medication
- Fewer ad hoc orders needed to be processed and delivered, resulting in greater staff efficiency
- Missed doses reduced from 6% to 1%

Watch Omnicell's fully automated prescription system in operation at St Mary's Hospital.

 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-34785001>

“We have saved time hunting for keys and searching in cupboards – we know we have the stock and the cabinet takes us to it. Invaluable. Really time efficient and safe.”

Jackie Harry, NICU Ward, Isle of Wight NHS Trust

