Large scale installation of intelligent cabinets leads to reduction in medicine spend and reduction of non-moving inventory

Customer profile

St Thomas' Hospital in London is part of the Guys and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust. The Kings College of Medicine is also located at the hospital.

An 'intelligent' Omnicell cabinet system for automating the ordering and control of medicines was installed across 100 wards at St Thomas' Hospital and Guy's Hospital. The systems are now being integrated with their ePMA system, EPIC. In addition the Trust deployed 219 inventory supply management systems across all main clinical areas from theatres to the ward. The systems hold £7.9m of inventory and generate approximately 440 orders per day.

The goals of implementation

For pharmacy were to...

- reduce nurses time preparing and dispensing pharmacy medicines, releasing more time for patients
- increase patient safety
- improve the discharge process from wards with increased availability of medicines
- to have a safer, controlled and efficient system with no more top-up checks required
- reduce stock discrepancies with greater accountability
- a full audit trail for each medicine administered
- decreased ad hoc deliveries from pharmacy to wards

For supply inventory management were to...

- reduce the level of inventory waste by identifying slow moving/non-moving inventory before it went out of date
- reduce the level of emergency orders which led to unnecessary delivery charges and over ordering
- reduce nursing time spent on administration and searching for stock so more time could be spent on face-to-face patient care

Omnicell®

CASE STUDY
GUY'S AND ST THOMAS' NHS FOUNDATION TRUST
PHARMACY AND SUPPLIES

"A fully automated cabinet that provides end users with instant information and access to stock medication twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. Orders are automated and delivered by pharmacy staff to cater for the individual ward requirements and needs. Stock is checked weekly to monitor levels and usage."

Dan Mandeman, Chief Pharmacy Technician Ward Automation, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust.

"From a nurse pushing the button to signal a product has been removed, the process is fully automated with no manual intervention. The system itself is arguably the easiest part."

David Lawson, Chief Procurement Officer, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust.

Pharmacy results

- Transaction time for drugs reduced to just 15 seconds releasing more time for patient care
- Discharge time from the wards is quicker
- Medication errors and incident reports had a sizeable reduction
- Average reduction in additional stock holding is 22% across all systems
- Medicines returned to stores are virtually non-existent. Part packs are returned to the Omnicell cabinet, around £25,000 worth of stock each month.
- Medicine spend down by 10.64% and the ability to do twice as many top ups with the same resource

Supplies results

- More than 101,000 nursing hours freed up for patient care
- 35% reduction in non-moving inventory
- Inventory re-order levels reduced by 10% in wards and 5% in theatres
- Transaction time reduced by 74%
- Average picking time reduced from 63 seconds to 17 seconds

Find out why Lord Carter thinks that more hospitals should be using systems like our Omnicell system at Guy's and St Thomas' https://youtu.be/1i89WzqcV0Q

Contact your Omincell sales representative or email automationsalesuk@omnicell.com to find out more today.

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