IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust makes smarter digital choices with Computacenter device evaluation exercise

Worcestershire NHS
Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

SERVICES
- Smart Supply
- Advisory Services

USER EXPERIENCE
- Less administration
- Higher satisfaction

BUSINESS IMPACT
- Greater clinician productivity
- Stronger pharmacy audit trails

BUSINESS OUTCOME
- Better patient care
- More accurate prescriptions

OBJECTIVE

To improve patient welfare, Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust is replacing manual notes and charts in hospitals with an electronic prescribing and medicine administration (EPMA) system known as SafeMeds. Part of the NHS drive towards digitalisation, the solution will enable nurses and other clinicians to access clinical apps at the point of care. With 5,000 members of staff potentially impacted by the change, the Trust understood the importance of selecting the right device to support the initiative. The devices had to meet very specific requirements to maximise user adoption.

SOLUTION

With a multitude of devices on the market, the Trust turned to Computacenter to conduct a product evaluation exercise. Based on user profiles, performance and hospital requirements, Computacenter created a shortlist of nine devices and arranged for the hospital to borrow loan units. Devices were scored against a range of criteria, as they needed to be lightweight, ruggedised and include features such as barcode scanning and an antimicrobial coating. Following a pilot at two wards, devices will potentially be rolled out across 50 wards at three hospitals.

OUTCOME

With the right devices, the NHS SafeMeds project will deliver a greater return on investment faster as user adoption will be more widespread and more rapid. The digitalisation initiative will not only make it easier for clinicians to do their jobs by simplifying administration but also improve patient safety. The project will minimise the risk of errors in medicine prescriptions and administration, simplify the exchange of data from the bedside to the pharmacy, reduce delays and provide comprehensive audit trails, which will all help enhance the quality of patient care.

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Computacenter brings the knowledge and expertise to help us make informed decisions at the frontline of patient care."

Dan Banton, Lead Nurse for EPMA ('SafeMeds' ePrescribing & EDS), Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust