

Supporting University Hospital Southampton with their ambition to become a centre of excellence for supply chain management in healthcare.

Customer profile

University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust provides services to some 1.9 million people plus specialist services such as neurosciences, cardiac services and children's intensive care to more than 3.7 million people. The Trust is also a major centre for teaching and research in association with the University of Southampton.



The challenge

The Trust was looking for a robust inventory management system to ensure there was a standard approach to materials management across all its sites which:

- Treat around 150,000 inpatients and day patients, including approximately 50,000 emergency admissions;
- Help over 585,000 people at outpatient appointments; and
- Care for around 120,000 cases in the emergency department.

Goals of implementation:

- To improve patient safety and free up staff time so they can focus on patient care.
- To have full traceability and control of all inventory being used across the Trust.
- Be able to carry out patient level costing for greater visibility of what is being spent, where.
- Carry out work and updates using specialist inventory management software and provide reports and other actionable data to managers.

“This system is absolutely the way forward and it’s going to be an increasingly useful tool as we work with Omnicell to roll it out.”

Chris Meayers-Norkett, Head of Supply at University Hospital Southampton



Results

The Trust has already implemented Omnicell supplies solutions, including automated XT cabinets and Omnicell SupplyX Inventory Management system, in its cardiac, radiology and neuro-theatres and is about to implement them in its new hybrid theatre and general theatres. Since installing Omnicell supplies solution the Trust has already seen a number of significant benefits including:

- Inventory optimisation – ensuring the right amount of the right stock is on hand in the right areas. £600k worth of reduced inventory holding in the first 6 months alone with stock savings ongoing.
- Patient level costing – giving the Trust greater visibility on how money can be better spent across the hospital.
- An elimination of unnecessary and costly stock wastage – with huge savings realised in the first 6 months alone.
- Better use of staff time – instead of wasting time looking for stock, clinicians and nurses can now focus on patient care.
- Tracking of individual items for patient safety.
- 100% compliance and correct data for patient level costing for all phase one areas of the pilot using Omnicell systems.

Next steps for the Trust

The Trust will roll out Omnicell XT to its trauma and orthopaedic theatres in early 2018. It will use Omnicell SupplyX to help them achieve GS1 standards and to:

- Validate and tighten up income recovery
- Continue to optimise inventory
- Allow them to eradicate waste expiry across the Trust
- Prevent leakage and borrowing of stock across wards

“To bring about real change we had to understand the culture of the users and we knew we wouldn’t achieve this with just an open system. So we put in a hybrid system of cabinets and Omnicell SupplyX. All patient specific stock goes in the cabinets and all working stock is managed by Omnicell SupplyX. The staff have really embraced it and now they are approaching us with thoughts and ideas. Putting patients first is one of the Trust’s key values - these systems help us to do just that.”

Chris Meayers-Norkett, Head of Supply at University Hospital Southampton

