



Hospital EPMA Case Studies



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“Of all our digital projects, e-prescribing is the biggest step forward in patient safety.”

It reduces errors and ensures the right things get to the right place at the right time.”

Rowan Pritchard Jones
CCIO & Consultant Plastic
Reconstructive Surgeon

Case Study

St. Helens & Knowsley Hospitals chooses WellSky EPMA for Patient Safety & Digital Maturity

In April 2017 St. Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust went live with WellSky's new web-based WellSky EPMA (Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration) system. Currently on key wards including stroke rehabilitation and haematology, the system will be in Whiston's remaining 35 wards and departments by late 2018.

A strategic advance in digital maturity, as WellSky EPMA Programme Manager Mike McKenna says: "WellSky EPMA gives us a new interoperability environment to share data for things like A&E discharge, remote treatments for mental health facilities and secure patient records for mobile clinicians."

Why WellSky? Says CIO Christine Walters: "During selection we didn't have an EPR we were free to choose the market leader."

In addition to rich functionality, specialist tools and large user base, it helped that STHK already had Pharmacy stock control module, together creating an end-to-end medicines management platform that can interface with the PAS for order communications, discharge data and other functionality.

Web Benefits

Web enablement was also vital as Walters explains: "It makes WellSky EPMA easier to deploy, upgrade and link to new applications. Gone are local software reinstalls; updates are done at the centre with users given access via URLs to save time and ensure all everyone's on the same version. And internet data security is assured with firewalls and VPN access codes into the Trust server."

Its design informed by user navigation studies, WellSky EPMA's web interface simplifies training. Despite the change from the familiar, pharmacists were quick to adapt. As for the clinicians, Dr. Francis Andrews, medical director and the project's chair, says: "I went from paper to working electronically in 15 minutes. And nothing would induce the nurses go back to paper now."

Safety First

The speed with which cultural and technology barriers were overcome was impressive considering the complexity of e-prescribing which makes it difficult to change. A vast array of medicines, protocols and dose banding has to be entered into the system and customised to individual trust and clinician needs, with alerts for individual drug allergies and sensitivities. Because a single error can be life threatening, medicines management has one of the lowest tolerances to error: it has to be safe.

Error Reduction

Safety is paramount at STHK. Says Rowan Pritchard Jones, CCIO and consultant plastic reconstructive surgeon:

“Of all our digital projects, e-prescribing is the biggest advance in patient safety. It reduces errors and ensures the right things get to the right place at the right time.”

Rowan Pritchard Jones
CCIO and Consultant Plastic
Reconstructive Surgeon

According to Dr. Andrews, in just six months WellSky EPMA's impact on prescription errors has been dramatic: “We used to get a lot of error reports but in the last three months we've seen relatively few.” Besides obviating missing kardexes and transcription errors, WellSky EPMA's safety features include exception alerts and decision support tools. And where speed is critical, prescriptions and dosages can be reviewed and amended remotely.

Admission and discharge

From a single logon, EPMA enables a patient's complete prescription sheet to be viewed; histories called up and free text messages left on the file at both patient and drug level. Previous treatments are instantly available on readmission, and on discharge prescription letters draw down EPMA data and are shared with GPs through the hospital's ICE interface. Has the project been a success?

Working with WellSky

Given the project's complexities, including future rollouts planned for St. Helens Hospital, Outpatients' and possible community research, a good supplier relationship was crucial. Says Walters: “We appreciate WellSky didn't just send us techies; the team included a former EPMA user with hospital experience and a pharmacy background who understood immediately what we were trying to do.”

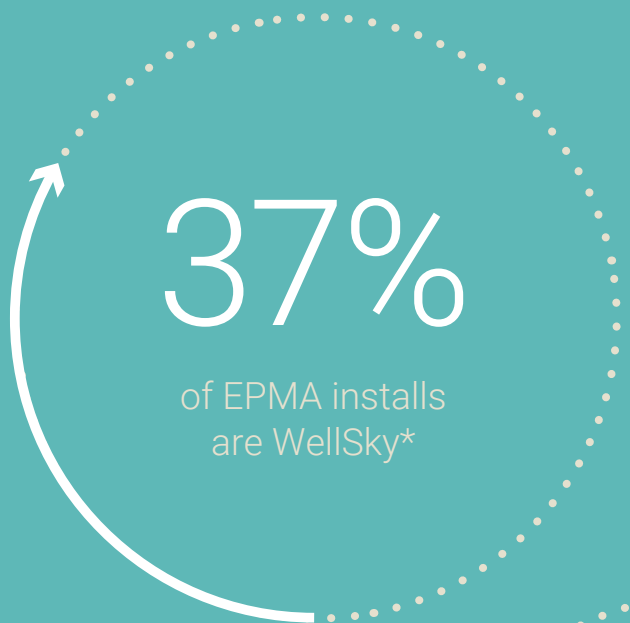
For Dr. Andrews it was WellSky's confidence that impressed. “With a project of this scope you'd expect some hiccups, but there were far fewer than most other projects. The team believes in the product, worked extremely hard and has a good roadmap. All of which makes WellSky our trusted partner for the long term.”

Visit wellsky.co.uk/videos to watch the implementation of EPMA (Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration) system at St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.



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VIDEO NOW**





The number one hospital
e-Prescribing and Medicines
Administration system in the UK



“The benefits of this approach include reducing hospital admissions through more seamless care delivery processes and improved continuation of care post-discharge.”

Gill Honeywell

Former IoW Chief Pharmacist

Case Study

Paperless Medicines Management: WellSky EPMA at the Isle of Wight NHS Trust

The Isle of Wight NHS Trust together with WellSky have successfully achieved a 100% paperless pharmacy service that reaches across wards, locations and care settings to improve efficiency, patient care and auditability in one of the UK's most varied and technically advanced Trusts.

Moving to paperless

The Isle of Wight initially implemented their Pharmacy Management module in 1988.

In October 2010, the Trust approved funding to implement WellSky's Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration (EPMA) and began an 18 month modernisation programme to migrate to a paperless medicines management environment.

Implementation of the WellSky system has meant that prescribing, administering and clinical verification of prescriptions is done electronically at all locations and pharmacy dispensing services are 100% paperless too.

Stock is monitored and dispensed automatically via bulk, dispensary and ward-based robots and nurses' clinical notes and administrations are captured digitally to achieve an end-to-end solution.

A complex landscape

As a unique combined Trust that includes Ambulance, Acute, Community, Mental Health and Prisons, the WellSky EPMA record is continuous and seamless as patients pass between care settings. Although HM Prisons doesn't use WellSky EPMA, the full dispensing history is available on admission, and any changes are immediately clear on discharge to the prison.

"The functionality and flexibility of the WellSky system enabled the IoW Trust to integrate inpatient prescribing across a number of wards and specialist environments, including Mental Health, Emergency Department and Pre-operative Assessment Units as well as the operating theatres."

Gill Honeywell
Former IoW Chief Pharmacist

In addition to covering such a broad range of settings, three different types of automation (each with stock control interfaces to the pharmacy management system) have been put in place to accelerate dispensing processes.

The Trust are also using ServeRx's ward-based automation system which enables them to dispense and re-order stock for the Emergency Department and their integrated GP out-of-hours service with little human intervention.

End-to-end services

The drive to roll out to such a wide range of care settings means that the Trust is reaping ever greater benefits from the system such as comprehensive and centralised reporting, transferring patients between settings with ease, and medicines reconciliation between primary and secondary care.

“The benefits of this approach include a more seamless care delivery process and improved continuation of care post-discharge to reduce hospital admissions.”

Gill Honeywell
Former IoW Chief Pharmacist

A cross-sector re-ablement service allows the IoW to e-mail the patients' TTOs to a secure central mailbox, and a community pharmacist continues the care with accurate and up-to-date information.

The response from both nurses and other users has been positive. Improved patient chart legibility coupled with ease of access to information – even from remote locations – not only encourages good practice but allows for shorter, more efficient ward rounds and improved patient care.

Realising measurable benefit

Historically, paper drug-charts have been a primary source of information for clinicians and could be accessed by the various staff involved, depending on the care scenario.

Replacing patient paper charts with a software system is neither easy nor a perfect solution, but the Trust believes the need to improve clinical documentation and make better use of patient data for better outcomes and patient care far outweighs the resistance to change.

“Reduced wastage of medicines and the ability to track missed doses has resulted in cost savings through better care quality and safety. Workflows have dramatically improved and reports of saved time point to even more benefits from working within an electronic environment.”

Gill Honeywell
Former IoW Chief Pharmacist

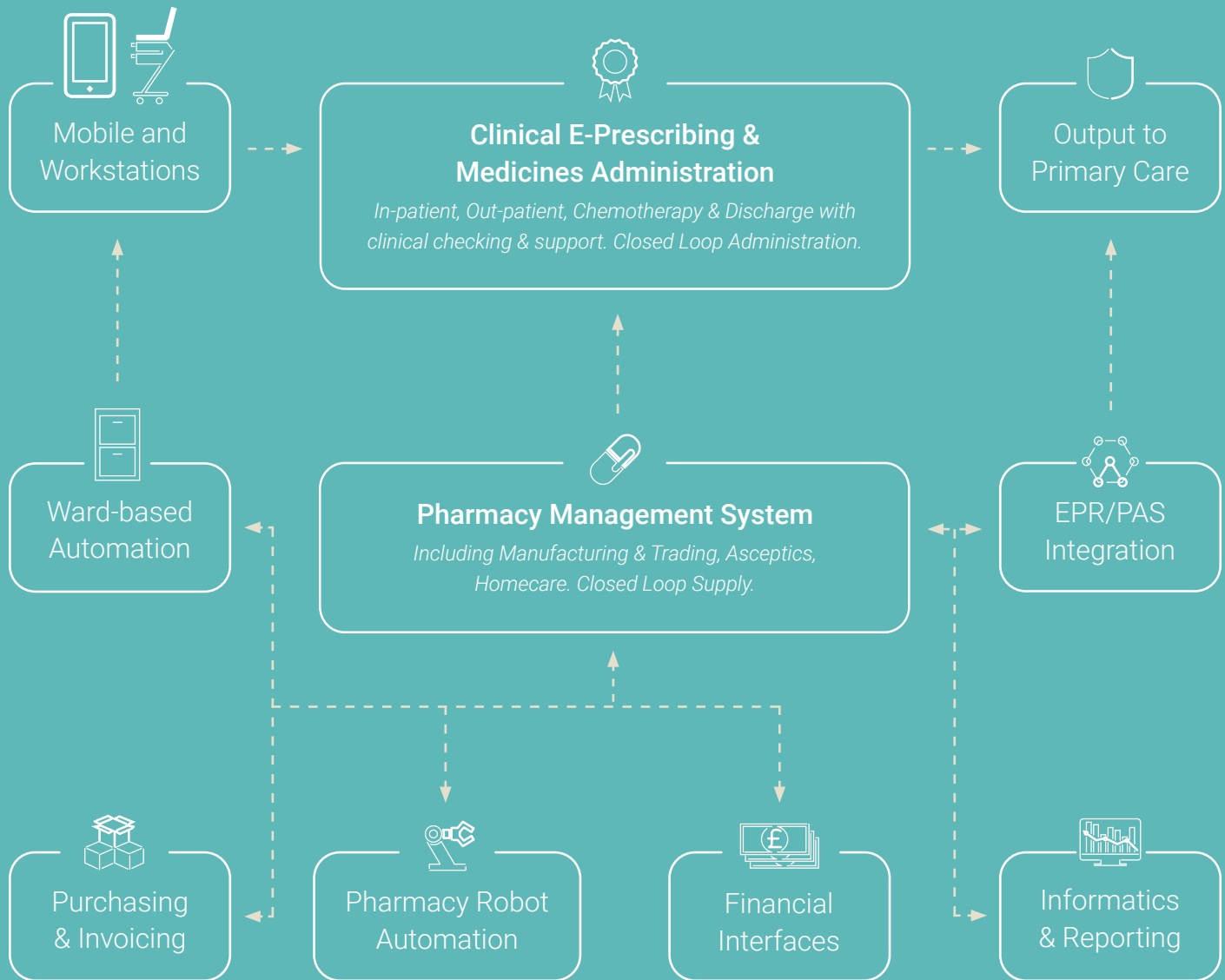
Enabling varied clinical teams to easily access accurate patient information and results demonstrate that the benefits are far reaching and not limited to the pharmacy alone; the benefits are truly Trust-wide.

Visit wellsky.co.uk/videos to watch a short BBC news clip showing medicines supply at the Isle of Wight NHS Trust happening seamlessly using robotic automation controlled by WellSky's medicines management solution.



WATCH THE
VIDEO NOW





An end-to-end, integrated and fully interoperable platform

The WellSky solution is designed to work alongside or within larger PAS or EPR implementations; receiving and sharing relevant data with other clinical and administrative systems.



“HEPMA also contributes to improved patient safety by mandating elements of process adherence, such as allergy recording, so that other members of staff are guaranteed to have this information immediately available.”

Richard Cottrell

Senior Clinical Pharmacist
and HEPMA Pharmacist

Case Study

HEPMA in Scotland: Integrated Pharmaceutical Care Services at NHS Ayrshire and Arran

NHS Ayrshire and Arran (NHSAA) was an early adopter of the pharmacy-integrated model for hospital e-prescribing after a trial at Ayr hospital in 1999 demonstrated a rapid and clear reduction in medication errors and improved quality of prescriptions.

At the forefront of e-prescribing

Ayr Hospital worked collaboratively with WellSky to develop the original HEPMA solution to address key clinical requirements around medicines management.

This solution was rolled out across six wards, including admissions, coronary care, orthopedic, and general medical wards.

“Integration with other NHS systems is easy, it fits into the way we prefer to work rather than the other way round.”

Richard Cottrell
Senior Clinical Pharmacist
and HEPMA Pharmacist

The response from users was extremely positive, with the benefits of legibility, reduced errors during prescribing, administration and dispensing, and information being available directly at the point of need all being reported by users.

The ability to share this information in other wards and the pharmacy dispensary further helps to improve the accuracy and rapid access to key information.

The system has now been deployed across both Ayr and Biggart hospitals, including speciality wards such as high dependency, surgical high dependency, long stay and care for the elderly.

Refining the solution, reaping the benefits

The HEPMA solution and Pharmacy Management modules form a single, integrated system, covering all NHSAA hospitals on a single system.

The integration of hospital prescribing and pharmacy services allows end-to-end medicines management processes that handle the complete cycle from prescribing, clinical verification and dispensing, to drug administration by nursing staff.

Benefits of the system for the Healthboard include routine use of electronic prescribing data for auditing, customised clinical reporting, delivery of the system via wireless technology and mobile devices.

The hospital's use of specialised drug trolleys on wards allows the Healthboard to push the boundaries of advanced patient care. These 'smartcarts' feature a mobile terminal with wireless connectivity, enabling staff to prescribe and administer medicines at the bedside – enabling staff to spend more time with patients, reducing errors and improving the patient experience.

Integration with pharmacy management has also helped minimise the administrative overheads of monitoring and maintaining accurate levels of ward-held drugs.

Another key feature is the integrated clinical decision support capability which provides access to real-time information and alerts.

Clinical staff use this information during the prescribing and administering processes to minimise risks to patients such as drug duplications, allergic reactions and potential side-effects.

In-depth reporting

The WellSky solution's reporting functions have been welcomed by staff and improved auditing and clinical data management. Usage reports produced from the HEPMA data are helping to manage appropriate and prudent use of medication throughout the Healthboard.

For example, one of the reports allows clinicians to get an immediate overview of patients with prescribed antibiotics and see: how quickly treatment was started; whether any doses were missed; and even the exact time each dose was given.

This also allows the hospitals to maintain detailed records of any restricted antibiotics or combination regimes. Without e-prescribing in place this level of information would simply not be readily available.

“A key benefit of reporting is not just the historical data, but also the real-time information. For example, real-time reports of specific antibiotics or anticoagulants can be produced to enable daily monitoring.”

Richard Cottrell
Senior Clinical Pharmacist
and HEPMA Pharmacist

Users can also conduct custom in-depth analyses of the information in the WellSky HEPMA database, using the system's reporting tools to extract the information and display the results in a range of easy-to-use formats.

This gives doctors a completely up-to-date picture of the latest information on what is being prescribed and why during their daily rounds.

Historical reporting also enables clinicians to monitor their workload and allows non-medical prescribers to check their prescribing for any given day.

“HEPMA also contributes to improved patient safety by mandating elements of process adherence, such as allergy recording, so that other members of staff are guaranteed to have this information immediately available.”

Richard Cottrell
Senior Clinical Pharmacist
and HEPMA Pharmacist

In addition to enabling best-practice, the solution also improves communication and efficiency by producing immediate patient discharge letters, helping to eliminate unnecessary hospital waiting time for patients.

To find out more about how WellSky's HEPMA solution for Scotland is meeting the aims of NHS Scotland's 2020 vision visit hepma.scot.





Proven at scale
to be safe, specialist
and interoperable



“WellSky EPMA gives all users a more accurate and up-to-date reflection of what’s happening to a patient within the Mental Health Act because all teams have access at all times from any location.”

Andrew Moonesinghe
WellSky EPMA Services Manager

Case Study

E-Prescribing in SWLStG Mental Health Trust

Over the past year South West London and St. George's Mental Health NHS Trust (SWLStG) has achieved a major reduction in prescription errors and saved over £400,000 with the help of WellSky's Electronic Prescribing and Medicine Administration (EPMA) solution which supports medicines management in NHS Trusts, homecare and crisis management services.

Based at Springfield, Queen Mary's and Tolworth Hospitals in South-West London, the Trust serves five boroughs with a total population of 1.1 million. In May 2016 SWLStG began implementing WellSky EPMA to increase patient safety and business efficiency prescribing in medicines management. The system went live in early 2017.

"With WellSky EPMA I can see exactly what my patients are treated with, and prescribe wherever and whenever I'm working. Given our three separate hospital sites and 22 wards, with paper-based system it took time for prescriptions to move from the wards to dispensary then back to the patient.

It also meant the process of auditing if drugs had been signed-for and administered on time could take several days. With real-time data continually updated on a central server, we can now check this in a matter of minutes and have almost eliminated unintended missed doses."

Dr. Sean Whyte
Consultant Psychiatrist,
Clinical Director at the Trust &
Clinical Lead for the EPMA project

Finding the right system

The Trust already had basic e-prescribing bundled into its EPR system but wanted a more robust, function-rich alternative that could support the paperless workflow across the hospitals and remotely. At the time the only EPMA provider with an operational system in a mental health Trust was WellSky, which enabled the project team to gain valuable support from WellSky's long-established site, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust.

Says Katy McLachlan, SWLStG's Advanced Specialist IT Pharmacist: "The fact they had been down the WellSky EPMA road before us and has a similar environment helped to jumpstart our development."

“By reducing selection errors and discouraging over-used or non-compliant medication orders, defaults help deliver safe and best practice care while reducing drug costs.”

Katy McLachlan

Advanced Specialist IT
Pharmacist at SWLStG

Reducing prescription errors

Because WellSky EPMA replicates the paper chart environment, the transition to EMPA was swift. The training rollout to the Trust’s 1000 clinical staff included bestpractice procedures for working within a computerised environment which has contributed to the reduction in medicines related incidents.

The system also removes errors associated with bad handwriting and manually transposed drug charts (consuming several months of medical & pharmacist time per year). All drug and patient information is centralised (and automatically duplicated to prevent workflow interruptions and data loss), for access by qualifying clinicians via ward screen or remotely, and enables routine and ad-hoc clinical, regulatory and business reports to be generated automatically.

Says Dr. Whyte: “Previously medicines reconciliation and clinical audits involved nurses had to walk miles between wards and buildings and took up to 25 hours a month, with stock checking requiring many more hours per week. We estimate we’ve cut this time by up to 80%. And though we started with a low prescription error rate, WellSky EPMA has helped reduce it by well over 50%.”

Offsite medicines management

WellSky EPMA also supports homecare and community services. Instead of returning to the hospital for authorisation or waiting for a doctor’s signature, nurses can discuss patient needs by telephone and doctors can order prescriptions remotely from their laptop; vital in time-critical situations like clozapine dose titration. Obviating the need to admit patients simply to administer medicines can also save up to £450 per bed night.

Next steps

The Trust estimates that since system go-live it has already achieved the equivalent of over £400,000 in staff hours and vastly more in the value of clinician and pharmacist time.

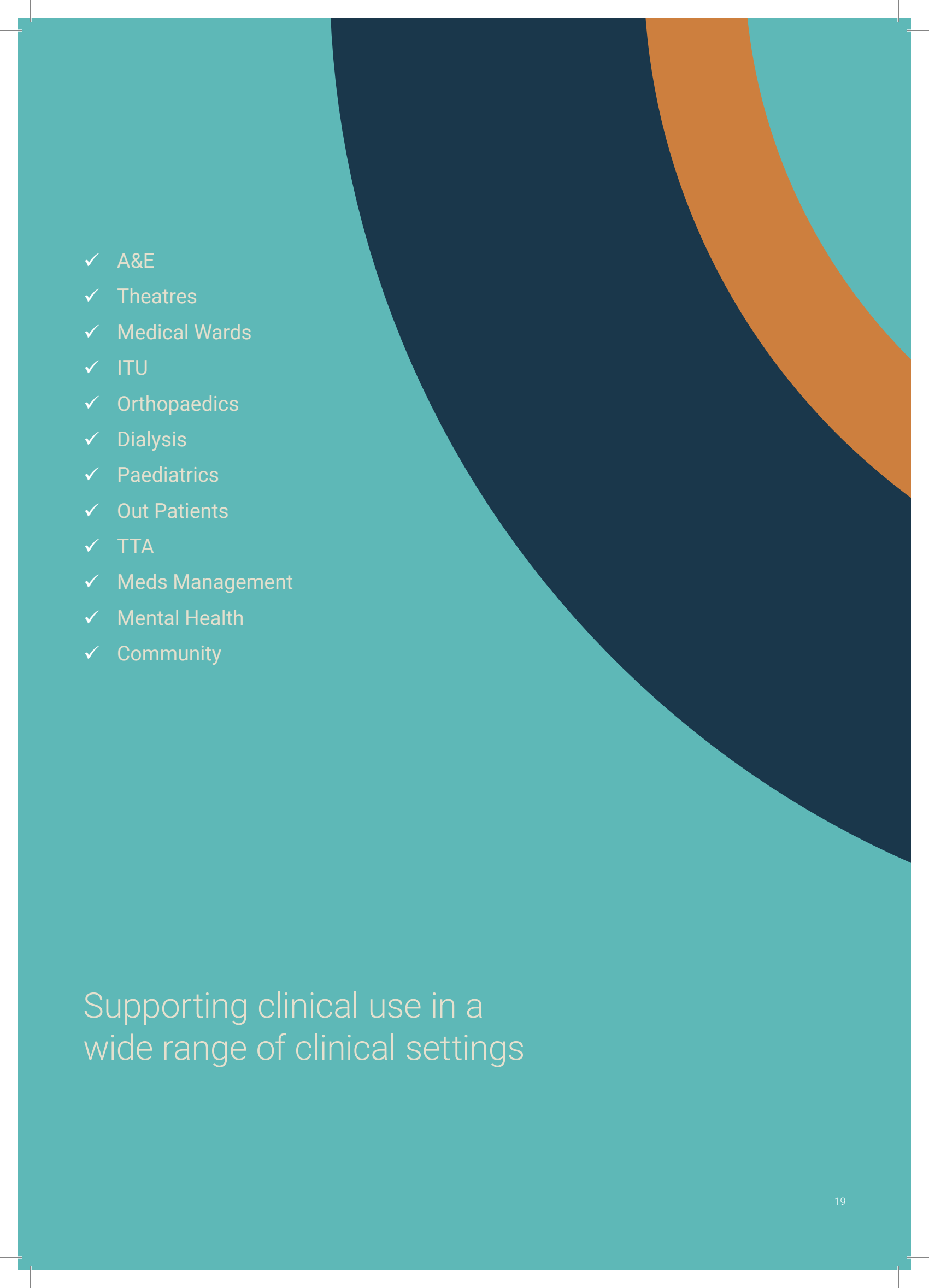
Soon the dispensary will be connected up to complete the paperless flow from doctor to pharmacy to nurse to back to patient. SWLStG is also currently upgrading to the new web-based WellSky EPMA which delivers additional functionality including dose range clinical checking and support for electronic prescribing of depot injections for community patients.

To see how other Trusts are using EPMA for Mental Health, visit wellsky.co.uk/videos and watch Andrew Moonesinghe, EPMA Services Manager, and Anthony Oxley, Director of Pharmacy, talk about Mental Health services in Leicestershire Partnership.



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- 
- ✓ A&E
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 - ✓ Dialysis
 - ✓ Paediatrics
 - ✓ Out Patients
 - ✓ TTA
 - ✓ Meds Management
 - ✓ Mental Health
 - ✓ Community

Supporting clinical use in a
wide range of clinical settings



“Electronic prescribing has allowed the Trust to give special attention to our antibiotic-stewardship. We’re now able to pick up those prescribers that aren’t adhering to guidelines and offer them additional support and training to make sure they understand the importance of good stewardship.”

Iain Davidson

Chief Pharmacist and CCIO

Case Study

The Power of the Data: Harnessing WellSky EPMA at Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust is the principal provider of acute care services in Cornwall. The Trust is continually developing its clinical services to keep at the forefront of medical technology and is committed to maximising the range of specialist care that can be offered locally.

What was the experience of implementing WellSky's EPMA like?

The deployment of WellSky's EPMA took about 12 months of hard work but had a rewarding outcome that was positively received by staff.

The first six months were essentially a pilot period where the staff got to know the system inside out, the ensuing six months focused on deploying the system across the Trust. We ended up going live across all 14 wards and theatres in surgery in one day as we realised that speed is of the essence in a mixed economy to avoid patient risk. What benefits has WellSky's EPMA brought to the Trust? As a prescribing tool and an administration tool, WellSky is fantastic, but the real power of it comes from the data that it generates.

"The data is really helping us to target our specialist knowledge and our expertise to an individual patient level."

Iain Davidson
Chief Pharmacist and CCIO

The Trust has developed different web tools using the data, for example, an antibiotic web page that shows all the antibiotics that are prescribed in the hospital.

We've also developed a risk profile tool called the 'Pharmacist's Friend' that shows pharmacists which patients have had their medicine reconciliation done, who's on a high-risk antibiotic, and who has missed doses of critical medicines in the last 24 hours as soon as they go onto the ward.

As a result, pharmacists can now make sure that they're going to the highest risk patients first rather than just working their way around the ward.

Tools have also been developed for specialist nurses - the 'Thrombosis Friend' and the 'Parkinson's Nurse Friend' - which are specialist web pages that display which patients are relevant to their work, where exactly they are in the ward and whether they've missed any doses of their medicines.

How is the Trust using WellSky EPMA data to improve antibiotic use and antibiotic stewardship?

Electronic prescribing has allowed the Trust to give special attention to our antibiotic stewardship. We're now able to pick up those prescribers that aren't adhering to guidelines and offer them additional support and training to make sure they understand the importance of good stewardship.

From this approach, the Trust has seen a reduction in Clostridium difficile rates, and we're seeing a much higher profile of antibiotic stewardship within the Trust because we can report incredibly robust data right up to the exec level.

How is the Trust using WellSky EPMA data to reduce missed doses?

The data generated by WellSky is helping us to reduce the amount of missed doses in the Trust because we now know exactly what the missed dose rate is and the reason why.

For example, at four o'clock every morning an email goes to the ward sister of any dose of a critical medicine within the last 24 hours that's been missed on that ward. That info is then taken to the morning handover so they can address the issue.

The Trust has also introduced automatic electronic ordering for ward-stock, so instead of walking paper orders down from the ward, the nurse just ticks a box to say that they need a further supply of a certain medicine.

"Electronic ordering and monitoring has transformed the workload in the pharmacy; we used to get about 20% of our work done before 11 o'clock in the morning, now we're getting over 40% done by the same time."

Iain Davidson
Chief Pharmacist and CCIO

How did you find working alongside WellSky as a partner?

The Trust has worked with WellSky for a number of years and it's been amazing how quickly WellSky have been able to adapt the system to make it more user-friendly.

Looking at WellSky's roadmap ahead and the fact that WellSky has such a big footprint in the UK, we think there's going to be some really good changes bringing in amendments and enhancements that Trusts have been asking for that will improve usability even more.

Is the Trust planning to share its experiences across the NHS to support best-practice?

The team at the Trust have become experts in the deployment of electronic prescribing and we are keen to share our experience across the NHS as other Trusts adopt electronic prescribing.

They hope to work with other Trusts' project teams to help them design, setup and progress through their deployment to make sure they have as successful a deployment as we have.

Visit wellsky.co.uk/videos to watch Iain Davidson, Chief Pharmacist and CCIO at Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust, talk about how they use the data held in WellSky's EPMA to reduce missed doses, improve antibiotic use, stewardship and deliver best-practice.



**WATCH THE
VIDEO NOW**



WellSky is committed to the
TechUK Interoperability Charter to
deliver better, more integrated care

tech^{UK}



“WellSky EPMA is a reliable and effective method to help improve safety and ensure trust-wide access to the medication record; supporting the prescribing, administering and dispensing of medicines.”

Martin Shepherd

Head of Medicines Management

Case Study

Bedford Embraces Paperless Chemotherapy Management

Bedford Hospital NHS Trust is the first of four UK Trusts to go live with WellSky's web-based Chemotherapy Management System (CMS), proven in 12 leading European cancer hospitals and a region-wide implementation in Norway. Designed by oncologists, it handles prescribing, administering, in-pharmacy production and patient records and adapts to local requirements regardless of country or language.

As part of its digital transformation and to improve safety and the patient experience, Bedford Hospital recently installed a data sharing platform for oncology services that could extend to home care and community facilities, its tertiary facility Addenbrookes in Cambridge, and cancer service partners in Luton and Milton Keynes. After an extensive search, in 2016 it chose WellSky Chemotherapy.

According to Kandarp Thakkar, Chief Pharmacist, Divisional Clinical Director and project co-sponsor: "When I first arrived at Bedford the Trust was about to purchase a long-established US-based chemotherapy system. I suggested that instead we go to open tender for a wider selection of alternatives. These were scored against a comprehensive list of requirements including functionality, interoperability ease of implementation and support reliability. WellSky Chemotherapy ticked all boxes and as an implementation partner were responsive in handling anything needed."

Easy configurability

Being a WellSky Pharmacy customer influenced the choice, but more importantly was Bedford's visit to a WellSky Chemotherapy site in The Hague which reassured them that despite regional differences, the solution's open design would enable it to adapt easily to UK and NHS requirements and support EPR integration.

The system was implemented within eight months, including links to PAS and pathology and future integration with Pharmacy will add the advantages of medicines stock control, ordering, inventory management and financial oversight for end-to-end oncology medicines management.

"At first I was apprehensive about computers, but training was easy and now I don't have to carry around bits of paper."

Wendy Cox
Oncology Nurse

At-a-glance visibility

WellSky Chemotherapy centralises patient information across every touchpoint from diagnosis to prescribing, aseptic production, appointment scheduling and drug administering – all visible on a single integrated screen that displays a complete medicines chart.

“A single logon provides visibility on everything clinicians need to know about their patient, treatments, prescriptions and test results.”

Edward Hawley-Jones

Bedford’s Lead Oncology Pharmacist and WellSky Chemotherapy System Manager

Treatment data, including dose adjustments and lab results, are instantly accessible and free text notes can be easily added into the system.

For Athar Ahmad, Consultant Oncologist and the WellSky Chemotherapy project’s medical lead, realtime treatment visibility is a major benefit.

“I can bring up patients’ WellSky Chemotherapy records and view their regimen, any dose reductions or omissions and dates of previous and upcoming treatments.

I can also access previous recorded toxicities and see notes left by other healthcare professionals without searching through historical paper records. Chemotherapy can be prescribed and received by Pharmacy immediately with all doses calculated and dose-banded.

WellSky Chemotherapy also provides other decision support tools to speed the prescribing process and ensure best practice.”

Automated audits

With all data captured electronically, the risk of lost patient records, mislaid prescriptions, transcription errors poor handwriting are minimised, while when errors do arise the source can be easily identified and corrected. Says Mr. Thakkar:

“One of the most important benefits of our new integrated electronic environment is that it provides full traceability and auditability.” WellSky Chemotherapy also automates report generation such as the monthly SACT, previously taking multiple pharmacists up to a day to compile.

A quality experience

WellSky Chemotherapy also helps to enhance the patient experience. When a chemotherapy patient arrives for treatment they are confident there will be no delays or session rescheduling due to a missing medicines file.

The caregiver experience is also improved. Given increasing pressures on NHS time and resources, the complete, accurate and up to the minute visibility provided by WellSky Chemotherapy enables doctors, nurses and pharmacists to do more in less time while ensuring best practice patient safety and a quality outcome.


Visit wellsky.co.uk/videos to watch Maureen Little, WellSky’s Clinical Safety Manager, discuss the importance of end-to-end medicines systems, mitigating risk by integrating EPMA and Pharmacy processes, and how clinical decision support contributes to safety.



WATCH THE VIDEO NOW







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