



CASE STUDY: IMPAC AND FDB

Supporting Arden Cancer Centre at the University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust.

The Arden Cancer Centre at University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust chose to implement IMPAC's Oncology Information System in 2006 and has successfully rolled out to its radiotherapy and haematology departments. The software contains active clinical checking functionality from First Databank (FDBTM) to improve patient safety.

Background

The Arden Cancer Centre is a respected cancer treatment centre housed within the new, state of the art, Coventry University Hospital, which serves up to 1.3 million people in the Coventry area and is one of the largest healthcare complexes in the UK. The centre had used an Oncology Management system since 1994, but established a requirement for a new system which would improve overall workflow and practice management and enhance care for cancer patients.

The centre chose IMPAC's Multi-ACCESS system, due to its breadth of functionality and the capability to manage all the required oncology disciplines in one single database, including radiotherapy, chemotherapy, haematology and palliative care. Multi-ACCESS uses Multilex clinical decision support from First Databank to provide active clinical checking during the prescribing process, vital for supporting the complex protocols and regimens required in this speciality.

Solution

Implementation of the system began with an initial roll out to the Radiotherapy Department. 20,000 medical records from the old system were transferred to Multi-ACCESS, and there are now a total of 40,000 patient records on the system.

The new system has vastly improved working practice for its 360 users across the Trust. Clinicians and nurses can now record treatment delivery at the patient's side on laptops, allowing records to be updated straightaway and cutting out paper notes. Users are able to view all the patient's information in one place, including x-rays, blood tests results and current and past medication.

Much work has been done on the complex protocols which are created for chemotherapy regimens. As oncology makes use of many multi-drug protocols, order sets of drugs are built and linked to the clinical checking to ensure that when a protocol is prescribed to a patient each protocol is checked. When protocols are added to a patient's record, it automatically puts a 'pattern of treatment' into the patient schedule.

Patient allergies are recorded on admission and are regularly checked in case new allergies occur during treatment. In addition, extensive changes to the Trust's anti-emetic processes have been built into the system in order to avoid drug wastage.

"Patients at the Arden Cancer Centre rely on clinicians for the best possible care. We have selected this system, designed specifically for the context we work in, to provide the patient information and clinical decision support necessary for us to select the best medicines and treatments for each individual."

BILL KELLY

Radiographer, University Hospitals
Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

Benefits of using FDB's information

Clinical checking is undertaken which is vital for enhancing patient safety verifying complex dosage regimens used within the discipline. The integrated FDB functionality carries out the following checks within the patient medical record: drug-drug interactions, sensitivity checking and duplicate therapy. If the clinical check identifies a potential problem, a targeted message pops up on screen to alert the clinician.

Interactions are given a star rating which highlights the severity of the alert. Prescribers can then make an informed decision about whether they want to proceed with the treatment.



Expanding the partnership

Many benefits in patient safety and clinician workflow have already been noted. Future plans for the IMPAC system featuring FDB include widening the usage to other locations within the Cancer Network, as many patients are seen at more than one centre during the course of their treatment. Plans are also being finalised to upgrade from Multi ACCESS to MOSAIQ™, IMPAC's new Oncology Information System from Elekta.

For more information,
contact Sales today
at 01392 440 100.
Or, visit fdbhealth.co.uk

First Databank (FDB), a subsidiary of Hearst Corporation, is the UK's leading provider of drug knowledge bases and active clinical decision support.

As the company that helped to launch the medication decision support industry, we offer more than three decades of experience in helping transform drug knowledge into actionable, targeted and effective solutions geared to improving patient care, patient safety and outcomes.



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NICE has accredited the process used by First Databank to develop content used in Multilex drug knowledge. More information on accreditation can be found at www.nice.org.uk/accreditation. Accreditation evaluates only the processes used to develop content and excludes recommendations displayed by decision support systems in specific clinical settings as these are dependent on technical algorithms which are outside of the scope of NICE accreditation. Accreditation can be used to inform compliance with ISB 0129 – Clinical Safety Risk Management System – Manufacture of Health Software and ISB 0160 – Clinical Safety Risk Management System – Deployment and Use of Health Software, but cannot be used in isolation to release any product for clinical use.