



Safer dispensing at the point of care

How Parity Medical helped North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust implement Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration.



Background and context

North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust is a 570 bed, multi campus acute hospital serving the needs of over 400,000 residents of Hartlepool, Stockton-On-Tees, East Durham and the surrounding area.

Building on from their introduction of electronic records in 2015, and in line with their strategic digital roadmap, the Trust were planning the first stage of closed loop prescribing through the roll out of Electronic Prescribing Medicines Administration (ePMA).



Objectives

The implementation of ePMA was designed to share accurate and timely medication information across wards, departments and pharmacy.

By utilising and sharing real-time data at the point of care, the Trust was looking to:

- **Improve Patient Safety**
Substantially reducing the risk of error through lost or illegible prescriptions.
- **Standardise The Prescribing Process**
Providing prescribing support and alerting potential adverse drug interactions.
- **Create Workflow Efficiencies**
Creating more time to care through reducing round times and eradicating low value processes.
- **Maximise User Adoption**
Saving users time and simplifying their daily duties.

The challenge

To realise the stated objectives the system would need to be accessed by clinicians instantaneously, in different locations, including the dispensing nurse at the point of care.

At the very beginning of the project, the working group realised that it was essential that every member of staff that would use ePMA would need “the right tools for the job”.

As the project progressed the working group determined that the information access solution would need to be fully mobile and:

- Have a large enough screen to view the whole medication record, with a simple interface to easily access and input data.
- Be available 24/7 across both day and night shifts.
- Be suitable and practical for a number of users, all of different heights and IT literacy.
- Be easy to clean to ensure effective infection control.
- Be practical to move around the ward; small footprint, lightweight, yet robust enough to withstand repeated everyday use.
- Display the prescribing data and house the medication in the same, secure workstation.
- Be practical to manage and locate with reliable Wi-Fi connectivity.

The Project Manager also required a phased roll-out, as it is more controlled, simpler for issue resolution and facilitates continued development.

The solution

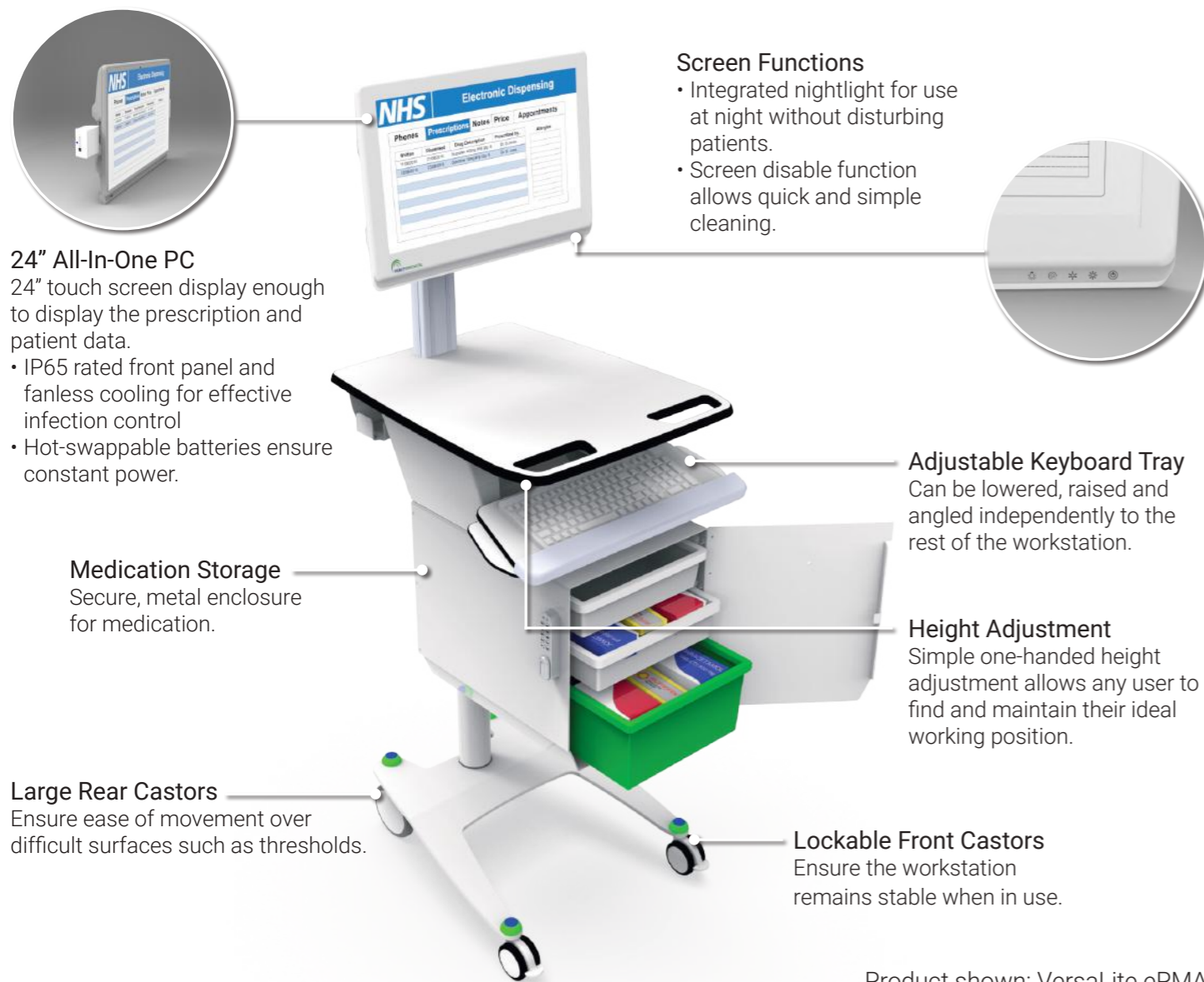
Working closely with the Project Team, Parity Medical tailored a solution and devised a delivery schedule to meet every aspect of the Trust's requirements.

It comprised of two kinds of mobile workstation, both featuring powerful All-In-One computers; one with medication storage for ward environments and one without for A&E and the Early Assessment Unit, the VersaLite EPR and VersaLite ePMA carts.



VersaLite ePMA

VersaLite EPR



Screen Functions

- Integrated nightlight for use at night without disturbing patients.
- Screen disable function allows quick and simple cleaning.

24" All-In-One PC
24" touch screen display enough to display the prescription and patient data.

- IP65 rated front panel and fanless cooling for effective infection control
- Hot-swappable batteries ensure constant power.

Medication Storage
Secure, metal enclosure for medication.

Adjustable Keyboard Tray
Can be lowered, raised and angled independently to the rest of the workstation.

Height Adjustment
Simple one-handed height adjustment allows any user to find and maintain their ideal working position.

Large Rear Castors
Ensure ease of movement over difficult surfaces such as thresholds.

Lockable Front Castors
Ensure the workstation remains stable when in use.

Product shown: VersaLite ePMA

The results

The mobile workstations were delivered in line with the phased roll-out schedule, starting with Ward 42, followed by all medicine wards, acute admissions and then the surgical wards.

To make the roll-out as smooth as possible the workstations were delivered with their hard drives pre-imaged and the full solution "ready to roll on the ward".

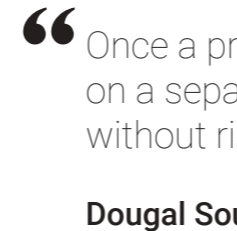
As part of the Parity Medical service, we invite major stakeholders to review the effectiveness of our solutions and service across the main project criterion. A selection of the feedback received is reproduced below:

Patient safety and standardising prescribing:



“ They have increased patient safety because sometimes the old charts weren't legible, so there is less chance of errors.

Ruksana Salim, Lead Nurse, Quality and Professional Standards



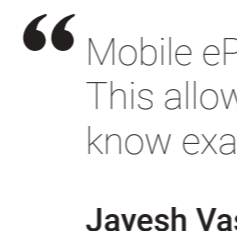
“ Once a prescription has been made, the nurses are able to view this on a separate workstation at the patient bedside and safely administer without risk of losing paper or relying on word of mouth.

Dougal Southward, Emergency Medicine Consultant



“ With ePMA on mobile workstations, there is a better audit trail of prescriptions and administration, the double checking of controlled drugs or other complicated drugs and infusions.

Ignacio Cardona, Emergency Medicine Consultant



“ Mobile ePMA means everyone can view prescriptions instantaneously. This allows us doctors to make safe prescribing decisions because we know exactly what medications patients are on.

Jayesh Vasani, Consultant Physician and Chief Clinical Information Officer



Creating more efficient workflows:



“ The staff like the carts and find them really beneficial. The medicine round times have reduced significantly.

Laura Welsh, Ward 42 Matron

“

The carts are easy to clean with Clinell wipes, so from an infection control point of view they find them easy because there are no nooks.

Ruksana Salim, Lead Nurse, Quality and Professional Standards



“ The Orion software really helps us manage the devices that are out on the ward. The big advantage is that we can do it remotely. So we can solve problems before they happen.

Paul Savage, Project Manager

“

The Parity workstations are great. The clinical staff love them, especially when doing medrounds because they have large bright touchscreens and are easy to manoeuvre.

Naveed Amanat, Clinical Applications Analyst



Roll out and adoption:



“ We were really happy with the support we received from Parity, which helped us have a successful phased roll-out. Neil was always on hand to offer help and support.

Kelly Calvert, Clinical Change Lead

“

Parity Medical have been excellent with the ward, the training was excellent. We're really happy with what we have got.

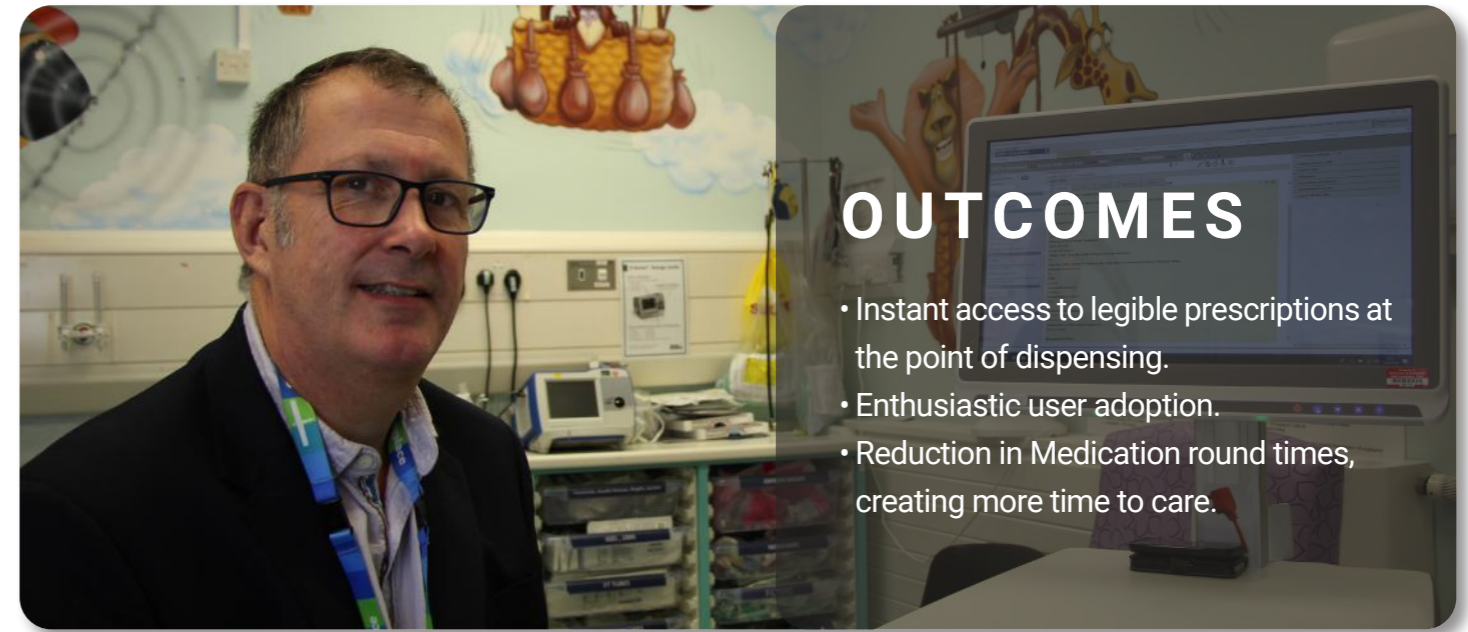
Laura Welsh, Ward 42 Matron



“ It's incumbent that we work with the right supply partners such as Parity Medical. Their role in this direction of travel is mission critical.

Graham Evans, Chief Information and Technology Officer

Summary



RECOGNITION

The trust has been recognised as a top performer nationally for its work around electronic prescribing and has moved up more than 100 places in the Clinical Digital Maturity Index.

▲ 100+ **CDMI**
PLACES

See the video case study at:
www.paritymedical.com/north-tees-case-study



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