

Read about how **JAC's EPMA for mental health** was successfully implemented on-time and under budget at **Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust**

Electronic Prescribing and Beyond

www.jac.co.uk

“I think it’s refreshing in the NHS to have a trust wide computer system launched on-time, and under budget, that has been able to meet the needs of dispensers, prescribers and nursing staff and ultimately improve patient care.”

Dr Daniel Kinnair, Consultant Psychiatrist

in association with



Customer needs met

- Routine use of electronic prescribing data for auditing & customised reporting
- Electronic system to fully replace paper-based prescription across the Trust
- Improved prescribing accuracy and prescription legibility
- Clearly demonstrated patient safety and financial benefits
- Trust-wide access to clinical information regarding prescriptions and administrations

Executive Summary

Leicestershire Partnership Trust has successfully implemented JAC's leading E-Prescribing and Medicines Administration (EPMA) system across the Trust. After a successful pilot demonstrated enhanced patient safety and financial benefits, the Trust has now deployed electronic prescribing Trust-wide, including community hospitals, to help staff meet the everyday challenged within the mental health setting.

JAC is the UK's largest provider of acute e-prescribing and integrated pharmacy stock control systems and has over 30 years' experience in the industry. Its EPMA solution provides inpatient

and outpatient prescribing and medicines administration, ensuring that users have access to clinical information regarding prescriptions and administration from any location within the Trust.

Background

JAC's EPMA's solution was selected by the Leicestershire Partnership Trust in 2007, when the trust committed to move from a paper based prescribing system to an electronic solution, in order to enhance patient care and support the complex prescribing regimes within mental health.

The Trust recognised that EPMA would help them meet the challenges they faced, which range from monitoring multiple sites to interfacing with other clinical systems.

Phase 1 of the programme saw EPMA being successfully piloted in a mental health ward for older patients, and subsequently deployed across 15 wards. Due to the success of the first phase, which was received positively by Trust staff, and where EPMA's time saving and patient safety benefits were demonstrated, it was agreed to expand the solution to outpatient sites in order to enable one single clinical patient medication record Trust-wide.

Phase 2 commenced in May 2010, when the Trust's project team started rolling out to an additional

31 inpatient areas, including a day hospital and all static outpatient clinic areas. JAC worked hard with the project team to ensure that the requirements specific to a mental health trust were met, and a successful deployment was assured due to the intuitive system and the extensive training and communications programme carried out alongside the roll out.

Now fully deployed, EPMA enables clinicians to access or create a clinical patient medication record or prescription wherever they are within the Trust, whether using a PC or a laptop.

In addition to the roll out of EPMA, the project team has developed an advanced prescription tracking system, which enables users to log in and track prescriptions wherever they are. The team has also implemented dementia prescribing, which is freeing up time for pharmacists: they can now log in and create a prescription and send to wherever it is required in the Trust.

Dr Daniel Kinnair, Consultant Psychiatrist said: *"I think it's refreshing in the NHS to have a trust wide computer system launched on-time, and under budget, that has been able to meet the needs of dispensers, prescribers and nursing staff who administer, to ultimately improve patient care."*

EPMA – saving time and money

The benefits of access to accurate patient information across the Trust are many: cutting down the time spent on administration is just one of them.

Andrew Moonsinghe, JAC Electronic Prescribing Systems Manager and Pharmacy Project Manager, says: *“The roll out of JAC’s electronic prescribing across the Trust is proven to save time, reduce the occurrence of clinical errors, and has speeded up the entire prescribing process. Prescribing within a Mental Health trust is complex, as the Mental Health Act has to be incorporated into prescribing at every stage. Implementing the system means that there are no more illegible or incomplete prescriptions, and together with the advanced clinical decision support, this has resulted in an overall reduction of medication errors.”*

Zayad Saumtally, Ward Matron at Leicester Partnership Trust said: *“ePrescribing has reduced the medication round time as we do not have to flick through medication cards to check what medications are due at what time and reduced the likelihood of medication error. ePrescribing does act as a reminder for when depot medications are due i.e. it’s not missed!”*

EPMA has enabled the Trust to maintain a tighter control on prescribing costs. The system’s formulary control guides prescribers to choose drugs within the Trust’s formulary, prompting and guiding users, which is particularly useful for junior doctors.

Patient safety matters

EPMA incorporates First DataBank’s industry-standard clinical decision support, which alerts users to potential interactions at the point of care.

The solution automatically checks prescriptions and flags up any potential medication errors or patient allergies, which is particularly helpful in supporting the complex prescribing required for mental health.

Staff are also able to access detailed medication information to help inform decisions: *“The ability to quickly access clinical information really impressed staff,”* says Andrew. *“Finding a BNF on a ward can sometimes be difficult, so the ability to simply right-click on a drug to access all associated information from First DataBank’s clinical decision support is really helpful.”*

Jacqueline Moxon, Head of Health Informatics at Leicestershire Partnership Trust says *“Patient safety was a key driver for our*

choice of system, and the fact that cost savings have been identified is an added bonus. We have a really good working relationship with JAC and I would wholeheartedly recommend them to any other mental health trust. They have a proactive way of looking at and meeting our needs where possible. The system is really intuitive and I have had many positive comments from ward staff that they would never go back to the paper based system, as they no longer have to interpret doctors’ handwriting or chase prescriptions. The ward staff were easy to engage as they could see time and patient safety benefits really quickly.”

Dr Mangesh Marudkar, Consultant Psychiatrist and Associate Medical Director say: *“The e-Prescribing system is excellent. It is easy to use and not only does it help practitioners feel more confident in their prescribing but also makes the dispensing quicker. This computerised method is a much better way to manage medicines and improve patient safety and I’m delighted this is being extended to all areas of the Trust.”*

About JAC's EPMA system

JAC has the largest installed base of Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration (EPMA) systems in UK hospitals. These systems improve patient safety by reducing prescribing and administration mistakes that could result in medication errors and adverse drug events.

EPMA also facilitates wider improvements in clinical practice, including: reductions in paperwork and transcriptions; improved audit trails for medication; performance monitoring and intelligence; enhanced reporting capability to review practice, improve future care and deliver

management and financial information such as reporting for PbR; greater consistency and continuity of care between primary and secondary care settings; and more effective communication between hospital departments and pharmacies.

The system incorporates the UK's leading drug database, to support safe and effective electronic

prescribing through its clinical checking. This allows the system to check for drug-drug interactions, sensitivities, drug doubling and duplicate therapy, therefore reducing the risk of medication errors and increasing patient safety.

Find out how JAC's electronic prescribing solution can deliver measurable benefits to your organisation. Visit www.jac.co.uk or call +44 (0) 1268 416348.