

## **Cost savings and efficiency gains with DAWN CH**

### **Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading**

#### **Introduction**

With several hundred patients actively monitored by the haematology department at the Royal Berkshire Hospital (RBH), DAWN CH Clinical Haematology software was introduced to improve the patient experience and streamline the workflows within the department.

Since DAWN CH was implemented over 12 months ago, patients with long-term stable conditions such as monoclonal gammopathy of unknown significance (MGUS), essential thrombocythaemia (ET) and haemochromatosis are monitored using the software.

#### **Cost Savings and Efficiency Gains**

Prior to DAWN CH, patients attended routine appointments at the hospital clinic every few weeks or months. With DAWN CH software in place, patients now get routine blood tests at their local GP practice, with the results processed at the haematology department at RBH. The department then sends out a letter to patients informing them of their results.

This approach provides a number of cost and efficiency savings for the hospital and the patient including reduced transportation costs, waiting times and the inconvenience to the patient of having to travel to the hospital for every appointment.

By using DAWN CH for stable chronic disorders, haematology staff have freed up appointment slots at clinics which enables them to spend more time with those patients who need it.

A DAWN CH administrator in the haematology office loads the treatment plans for each patient onto the system and coordinates the follow-up of patient monitoring alongside the Consultant and nursing staff.

Templates printed directly from the DAWN CH system not only provide an efficient and consistent way of presenting patient information, they also ensure clarity so that the recent findings and clinical advice included on the template are clear to all who receive a copy.

#### **Patient Safety**

The DAWN CH database now holds clinical and laboratory findings for several hundred patients who were previously monitored using mainly paper records.

The reliability and accessibility of the DAWN CH patient record on the hospital network makes it much easier for staff to find key patient information. Venesection records and patient's treatment and visit history can be checked quickly and easily, where

previously patients were often asked to confirm when their last treatment was. The convenience and reliability of recent treatment detail helps ensure high quality care for each patient.

Trend detection and alerts on the DAWN CH patient screen improve safety by highlighting issues to consider in treatment decisions.

### **Future Developments**

Next steps for the haematology department to help them get the most from the DAWN CH system include improving communication by emailing clinic letters to GP surgeries to save on time and paper.

Also, whilst existing auditing of the database already provides some key management statistics, it is hoped that further data can be delivered such as lists of haemochromatosis patients suitable for blood donations and performance measures of the department against current guidance for cyto-reductive treatment in myeloproliferative disease.

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For further information contact the 4S DAWN team on [015395 63091](tel:01539563091), or email [sales@4s-dawn.com](mailto:sales@4s-dawn.com)

*Established in 1984, 4S DAWN Clinical Software are trusted by over 300 healthcare organisations across the world to deliver reliable, disease specific solutions that increase patient safety, facilitate productivity gains and improve quality of care.*

