

## PRESS RELEASE

### University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust first to implement NHS closed loop medication supply using FHIR standards to improve safety and speed of hospital pharmacy processes

27 September 2021 – University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust and Dedalus announce a major integration milestone for the Trust's CareSuite EPR (Electronic Patient Record) solution, following the successful integration between the ePMA (Electronic Prescribing Medicines Administration) module and the Trust's Pharmacy stock control system.

Traditionally and with potential risks, medication requests are manually copied from printed or handwritten paper documents. This resulted in a lengthy transcribing process for the pharmacy team when entering data into the electronic stock control systems.

The integration between the CareSuite EPR and the pharmacy department creates a 'closed loop medication supply' process which significantly improves clinical safety and operational efficiency. The new digitised process enables a clinician to electronically prescribe the medication, which is automatically routed to the pharmacist for checking and then passed on to the Trust's dispensing system to issue the medicine.

The solution has a positive impact on both pharmacy and nursing staff on wards. Within the Pharmacy stock control system the team are provided with a safe and refined list of options for each medication request, speeding up the dispensing process, and nursing staff can quickly and easily see for themselves when the medication has been issued.

The closed loop supply process at Derby provides an end-to-end process making use of a dispensing robot to ensure the correct physical medication is always picked. Once double checked, the medication is then sent to the ward, labelled for the specific patient.

Debbie Loke, Interim Director of IT/CIO, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust said: “Implementing a new ePR is always a challenge, as processes change and cognitive load adds additional burden to our clinical and administrative teams. Being able to support our clinical teams with these developments is not only rewarding for those using the system but ultimately provides a better service for our patients, getting them quicker access to their drugs in order that they can return to their homes and families. This is a great example of partnership working with system suppliers and clinical teams that improves care.”

Clive Newman, Chief Pharmacist, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust said: “Our clinicians and pharmacy team are benefitting from a much more automated, efficient and accurate process. It reduces delays in treatment and most significantly, reduces dispensing errors resulting from manual transcription.”

Colin Henderson, Regional General Manager, Dedalus Group, UK & Ireland said: “We are proud to be working with Derby and Burton to enhance patient safety through its EPR and provide a seamless, digital solution starting from prescribing through to medication dispensing. Digitising the process through the EPR provides the Trust with the ability to dispense faster which is particularly beneficial when hospitals are under significant pressure.”

The electronic process is underpinned by the use of recognised healthcare standards including structured FHIR-based messaging and SNOMED CT drug terminology. Dedalus is the first EPR system vendor in the UK market to use the NHS strategic FHIR interoperability standards to deliver this in a live setting.

This standards based implementation at Derby and Burton has the opportunity to benefit all Dedalus’ EPR customers and they do not have to change their existing pharmacy system to gain the benefits from a closed loop medication supply process.

Ends

**About Dedalus**



Dedalus is the leading healthcare and diagnostic software provider in Europe and one of the largest in the world, employing more than 5,500 highly skilled qualified people. It has the largest software R&D team in the industry in Europe with more than 2000 staff. Dedalus covers the entire spectrum of healthcare professionals' needs, and today we support over 6,100 hospitals and 5,300 laboratories worldwide.

In the UK and Ireland Dedalus has over 170 active clients and 315 individual product installations across the NHS, the HSE in Ireland and numerous private providers. Its software solutions include Electronic Patient Records and Patient Administration Systems in Acute, Mental Health & Community Health hospitals, Laboratory Information Management Systems, enterprise scheduling, interoperability and data platforms and key specialist systems such as electronic prescribing and theatre management.

CONTACT:

Joanne Davis  
Dedalus UK & Ireland Press Office  
Email: [jdavis62@dedalus.group](mailto:jdavis62@dedalus.group)  
Phone: +44 (0)7799 476532

[info.uk@dedalus.com](mailto:info.uk@dedalus.com)  
[Twitter @DedalusUKI](#)  
[LinkedIn Dedalus](#)