PATHPOINT®

THEATRE OPTIMISATION USING AN END-TO-END DIGITAL SYSTEM

NHS
King's College Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

OpenMedical

Background

King's College Hospital (KCH) is the major trauma centre for the South East London Kent and Medway (SELKaM) trauma network, which is the busiest trauma network in the UK. The King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (KCHNFT) comprises two hospitals: KCH and Princess Royal University Hospital, with clinical leads and managers in trauma and orthopaedics (T&O) requiring oversight of both locations. KCH is renowned as one of the largest and busiest hospitals in the country, offering exceptional specialty services. Since 2017, the hospital has received nearly 27,000 referrals, processed an average of 300 to 400 referrals per month, and carried out 13,000 operations. To ensure smooth coordination of care within this bustling centre, efficient procedure planning and digital trauma lists play a vital role.

Challenge

- Trauma list planning conducted on white boards, word documents, and excel spreadsheets
- Inefficiencies in theatre list planning resulted in cancellations and delays
- Limited visibility of outstanding trauma cases and pending workload between KCH and PRUH
- Reliance on emails and phone calls for tertiary referrals led to poor governance data capture
- Lack of data capture hindered research, audits, and service improvements
- Inability to time-reference key parts of patient pathways

Key Learning Points

- ✓ Digital transformation optimises workflows and boosts efficiency, going beyond digitising old processes
- ✓ Early and ongoing involvement of all stakeholders is crucial to ensure the system meets everyone's needs
- ✓ Regular client feedback is obtained to adapt processes and ensure they align with their requirements
- ✓ Interoperability is vital for integration with external referrals, and eTrauma avoids workflow fragmentation by integrating with other digital systems

Solution

KCHNFT approached Open Medical who provided them with a cloud-based trauma coordination and clinical workflow digital solution, Pathpoint eTrauma.

- eTrauma centralises lists of scheduled, unscheduled, and pending patients on a digital trauma board for real-time oversight and coordination
- It acts as a hub for managing orthopaedic trauma referrals, enabling electronic referrals, and improving communication with external referrers
- The platform automates workflows, streamlining processes, improving efficiency, and reducing errors and data loss
- Powerful real-time data insights, reporting, and analytics support better decision-making, research, auditing, and service planning
- Customizable digital referral forms and role-based access enhance user flexibility and permissions

- It facilitates clear, two-way communication between KCH and external referrers
- Wound images are securely captured and stored within eTrauma, eliminating reliance on personal devices
- Users have remote access to eTrauma, enabling flexibility and productivity
- A live trauma dashboard provides real-time overview with tagged patient status for tracking and prioritisation
- Reliance on emails and phone calls for tertiary referrals led to poor governance data capture
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Results

Pathpoint eTrauma was successfully implemented across both sites in the Trust - KCH in 2017 and PRUH in 2021

Enhanced Trauma Coordination:

- Improved visibility of pending workload and patients at home
- Easy communication between T&O and theatres
- Features such as golden patient tag, equipment requests, and cancellation logs

Increased Workload Visibility:

- Trauma workload visibility extended across both sites
- Accessible from home for on-call consultants
- Ensures efficient management and allocation of resources

Clinical Audit Support:

- Easily exportable data
- Supported hundreds of clinical audit projects
- Enables comprehensive analysis and evaluation of trauma services

Informed Decision Making:

- Automatically generated daily reports
- Timely updates to management and clinical leads
- Facilitated informed decision-making and oversight

External Referral Management:

- Electronic forms and automated notifications
- Improved efficiency
- Ensures fully governed capture of referral decisions and advice

Real-time Documentation:

- Trauma meeting decisions documented in real-time
- Readily accessible to the wider team
- Enhances collaboration and promotes consistent care management

> **eTrauma** has been instrumental, ensuring that we have an efficient theatre management system. It has also been fantastic in running a tertiary referral service for major trauma. It has provided an excellent audit trail of all referrals and replies to referring units. It has also been a fantastic database system to ensure all the patients are fully accounted for and provides all of the missing logistical support that we do not currently have with our electronic patient record.

– MR ASWINKUMAR VASIREDDY

Consultant Orthopaedic Trauma Surgeon,
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27,000
Referrals since 2017

300-400
Referrals per month

13,000
Operations

OpenMedical