



Increase Patient Safety and Save Time When Documenting NEWS

Capio St. Görans Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden



Overview

Client

Capio St. Görans Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

City

Stockholm, Sweden

Medical Records System

Cambio COSMIC

Capio St. Görans Hospital

Capio St. Görans Hospital is one of the most centrally located emergency hospitals in Stockholm, and one of the country's largest in terms of the number of emergency patients. It offers over 30 medical specialties and 322 beds. Since 2000 it has been part of Capio AB, one of Europe's leading private health care companies. Capio AB provides public care through a care agreement with Stockholm County Council. Capio St. Görans Hospital is environmentally certified as per the ISO 14001 standard, and medical quality and patient safety are its top priorities. Its vision is to drive the health care of the future and provide better care by learning, challenging and innovating.

Objective and Results

With a hospital-wide National Early Warning Score (NEWS) routine as the standard, the hospital's objective has been to automate registration of patients' vital signs as well as calculation of NEWS values.

By linking the workflow directly to the Cambio COSMIC medical records system, both personnel efficiency and patient safety can be improved.

Introduction

Capio St. Görans Hospital initiated the transition to Welch Allyn monitors with the launch of Connex® Spot Monitor (CSM) in 2015. Automated transfer of vital signs to Cambio COSMIC was initiated two years later. This meant that clinicians were relieved of the manual tasks of registering and documenting NEWS. The objective was to further reduce sources of error and to more efficiently identify patients at risk of deterioration in the near future.

Test

Comparing the Time to Document Vitals on Paper vs. Electronically

The Biomed and IT departments at Capio St. Görans Hospital compared the time spent on automated measurement using the CSM monitor (wirelessly connected to the Cambio COSMIC medical records system) with manual documentation of vital signs (writing them down on paper and then typing them into the medical records system). The assumption was that the automated process would reduce the time required for documentation, eliminate the risk of transcription errors and improve access to vital signs data in the medical records system.

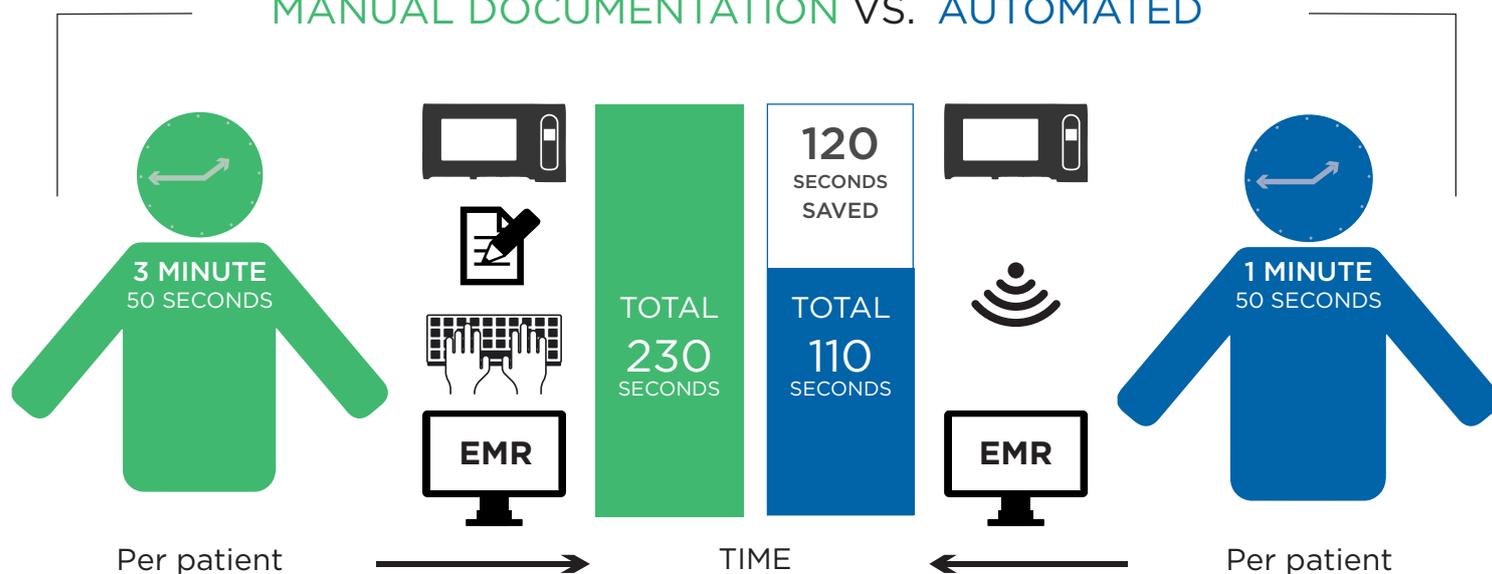
Results

Significant Time Savings

The average time spent on automated registration and documentation of vital signs data was 1 minute and 50 seconds, compared with 3 minutes and 50 seconds for manual registration. The result was a time saving of 52%.



MANUAL DOCUMENTATION VS. AUTOMATED



"Since we introduced automated documentation of vital signs into Cambio COSMIC, we have reduced time spent per registration by 52%. In combination with the standardization on the Welch Allyn CSM monitor, we have improved many workflows while simultaneously increasing the safety of both patients and clinicians at Capio St. Görans Hospital."

Marianne Mellkvist, Biomedical Engineer, Capio St. Görans Hospital

Minimizing Sources of Errors

The test focused on saving time and minimizing manual tasks. The hospital also puts a great value on improving accuracy and reducing sources of error through electronic documentation of vital signs values and automated calculation of NEWS.

According to Head Nurse Charlotte Spångberg:

"When patient data and vital parameters are written down manually on paper and then manually typed into the medical records system, there is a risk of errors occurring.

By reducing the need for manual entry, we minimize sources of error, save time and increase the safety of our patients."

Conclusions

Capio St. Görans Hospital has automated the capture, saving and documentation of patient vital signs and NEWS using Welch Allyn Connex Spot Monitors connected with Cambio COSMIC EMR. The result is a 52% faster workflow.

Now, clinicians can spend more time on direct patient care, and they feel more confident about the quality and accessibility of the patient data being registered directly in Cambio COSMIC. Patient data is now available virtually in real time on the EMR, allowing clinicians to respond faster to signs of deterioration.

Results

- 52% faster registration
- Reduced risk of entering incorrect data
- Increased access to patients' vital signs data for all clinicians