

Business case for the use of EDM2000™ within the dietetics department.

Overview:

EDM2000 is a mature and well established computer software program that facilitates the calculation, printing and labelling of infant feeds and meals (it can also be used for other patients on a liquid feeds such as burns victims, AIDS patients and the critically ill).

It is in use in over twelve major paediatric hospitals throughout England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales and as such is the de-facto standard within the UK and Ireland for infant feed production.

So, why should *your* hospital need to use EDM2000?

Detail:

Safety

One of the key reasons why most hospitals chose to use EDM2000 is the increase in patient safety that the correct use of the program will facilitate. With the accurate calculation of feeds, on-screen and on-print warnings at many stages, accurate and clear bottle (or meal) labels being produced, and zero typing required by the preparation room staff, all contributes to a clear and concise system. On large hospital sites each individual ward can have a different expire time on the bottle label for the feeds to reflect the time and method of delivery, again with no intervention from the milk room. With many of the metabolic feeds being produced today requiring detailed calculation and correct labelling then on safety reasons alone EDM2000 can be a fully justified purchase.

Standards

The feeds are calculated and printed in the same format and all the bottle labels are of the same high standard. Thus the use of EDM2000 will facilitate the adherence to a standard presentation and a level of accuracy that would not of previously been possible. Hospitals that use EDM2000 have been commended on their use of technology and efficiently within the dietetic department when audited. EDM2000 does not force a fixed set of rigid standards but provides a flexible framework for each hospital to adapt to its own way of working and thus contribute to maintaining those standards. This consistent format will also assist with the safety aspect as orderly and clear procedures will minimise variation and errors.

Traceability

Each change to a feed, printing of reports, labels and production of feeds is fully traceable and logged within the system. Thus, by using EDM2000, the dietetics department can

have effortless traceability of each stage of production of a feed right through to the despatch to the wards. If a product recall is required then a quick report can be run to identify which patients are on the problem product and the feed/s amended as necessary.

Time Saving

As each feed is automatically updated from one day to the next, only the changes to feeds need to be made by a dietitian. This reduces time required for daily checking and re-ordering of feeds and the daily feed list is automatically created. Adjustments made to diet sheets are automatically updated in this list that is used by the milk room for label production. If a product change is required for a feed then the original product can be swiftly changed and the program will fully recalculate the feed nutrient analysis and permit unlimited fine tuning while continually recalculating nutrient details. This allows the dietitians to spend more time on diagnosis and treatment of patients as less time is required in the daily calculations of feeds. We have feedback from dietitians that by using EDM2000 they save hours of manual calculation work daily.

Optimised stock use

As every product used to make up a feed is recorded in the EDM2000 system then it is very easy to see the usage of any product over a period of time. This then enables the milk room supervisor to order sufficient product to ensure that stock level meets the departments requirements but does not leave excess stock that may expire as in the case if too much is ordered. If the Ready to Feeds are also processed through the EDM2000 system (as many hospitals do) then a very clear stock and cost reports can be produced to assist with the cost-effective management of the milk room. It is possible to have accurate cost reports on a per patient, per ward or per speciality basis.

Milk room ease of use

Milk room staff very quickly become familiar in the simple use of EDM2000. At one level it can be the case of just clicking one button (or key – if the member of staff does not wish to use a mouse) to produce the correct and accurate labels for a set of bottles. At a higher level, the milk room staff can produce custom labels for simple feeds and a range of freezer labels and supplement labels with the minimum of training. There is even the option to use a touch sensitive screen for the milk room which makes to the use of EDM2000 even simpler and minimises the risk of bacteria getting in to feed production (due to problems with grime build up in standard computer keyboard).

Accuracy and detail

Every nutrient is calculated to many decimal places (that can be user configured on a per nutrient basis) and the resultant diet sheet is detailed and accurate. There are many internal checks that are done by the EDM2000 program to ensure that simple errors are not made. A diet sheet can be produced to print 9, 22 or 32 nutrients thus the required level of detail can be provided as needed. If the patient is on multiple feeds within the day then a summary sheet is available that will provide individual feed details along with a summary for the daily intake. This permits the dietitian, doctor or consultant a detailed and accurate summary as to the dietary intake for each patient.

Statistics

As well as feed production, the EDM2000 system can record patient statistics such as time spent on each feed calculation, in-patient or out-patient visits, telephone calls or home visits or any other peripheral activity associated with the patient. These activities can then be fully reported on and analysed at a later date. In the case of private patients this information may be vital for accurate billing of services provided.

Blood results can also be recorded with full graphing facility built into EDM2000 to provide the dietitian with clear presentation of results.

Accessible

EDM2000 runs from a network server within the hospitals network system. As such, it is normally accessible from within any department within the hospital provided that the logged on user has the correct access rights. EDM2000 can be accessed from the wards or out-patients as well as the dietetics department. Thus, the timely updating and changing of feeds can be done without the necessity of returning to the dietitians desk. If the hospital has the facilities for remote access then the dietitian can access and run EDM2000 from any location with a link (normally via broad band) to the hospital. This is particularly useful for on-call cover and also emergency planning in the case where the hospital is in isolation (i.e. Flu pandemic).

Patient feed history

As every feed made is recorded in the EDM2000 system then a detailed patient feed history is built up over time. This can facilitate the accurate fine tuning of feeds and detailed reporting of each patients feeding regime. A wealth of data is available to help managers plan the departments work load down to speciality, ward or dietitian level.

Payment options

It is a fact that many hospitals have problems allocating the budget for a system such as EDM2000. However we offer many different methods of paying for the system such a 'Pay per Print' or 'Deferred purchase option', these and other options are detailed on our web site at www.edm2000.com. We have never found a hospital that did not find great benefit, both financially and time wise, from using EDM2000.

Summary:

This is by no means an exhaustive list of the benefits of using EDM2000. It just covers the key points that may be relevant to your hospital. EDM2000 has become the de-facto standard within the UK by addressing the needs of all the hospitals that use the program. It is simple to use, powerful in its implementation and reliable on a daily basis. It will save money, improve efficiency and accuracy and, most importantly, provide an important safety increase in the running of the dietetic department.

We would be very happy for you to contact your nearest hospital using EDM2000 (details on the web at www.edm2000.com) and ask them their own experiences. Our ambassadors are our users and they can give you details of their own use of the EDM2000 system.

An on site demonstration can be arranged to suit you by contacting sales@microman2000.co.uk.