

## CASE STUDY

# Antrim Area Hospital | Digitising Weekend Patient Reviews and Discharges

## THE CHALLENGE

- A 400-bed district general hospital relied on a paper-based system to record weekend medical patient reviews and discharge decisions.
- No process for real-time location updating
- Limited visibility of ongoing work
- Difficult to read hand-written notes, and updating paper list

Antrim Area Hospital, a 400-bed district general hospital in Northern Ireland had previously utilised a paper-based system to manage weekend patient reviews and discharges. Clinical teams relied on these paper lists to manage multiple and cross-team review, bloods and discharge decisions. The paper-based system provided little visibility over real-time location updating or a global view of work being conducted across the hospital.

Regarding the paper-based system, junior doctors and multidisciplinary weekend teams provided feedback indicating that this had worked poorly for years; and critically, that there was a need to innovate working processes, weekend patient lists and discharge processes. With the knowledge that Antrim's nursing and medical teams had successfully implemented a digital tool to better manage ward and referral lists, the team decided that it was time to update their current processes.

## THE SOLUTION

### Digitising Antrim Medicine's Weekend Patient Review and Discharge Processes

- Major stakeholders established a working group to identify areas for improvement
- Wider weekend mapping and digitising processes identified as a priority
- Moving to a digital list was the biggest innovation to trial
- Cambio Healthcare's OpenWard platform used as basis to virtually test a digital weekend review and discharge list.

Working groups, executives and stakeholders at Antrim Area Hospital universally agreed that there was a strong need to implement a digital solution for managing weekend lists and discharge. This informed the group's decision to design, trial and test a bespoke solution based on Cambio Healthcare's OpenWard Platform.

Cambio Healthcare's solutions are designed to give clinical, nursing and operational teams higher visibility of patient activity across multiple systems. In addition, Cambio Healthcare's technology allows teams to share tools, (PTO)



### Geography

Antrim Area Hospital is one of the busiest hospitals for unscheduled care services in Northern Ireland. The hospital's state of the art emergency department, which opened in 2013, caters for approximately 90,000 patients per year.

### Functions

The hospital has 400 Beds catering to acute care, obstetrics, neonatal services, paediatrics, palliative care and renal dialysis, as well as a specialist dental service.

### Key Goals

To embed a digital platform to better manage weekend reviews and discharges in Antrim medicine by August 2022.

## CASE STUDY

# Antrim Area Hospital | Digitising Weekend Patient Reviews and Discharge

intelligence and information across multiple teams within a single organisation. These capabilities, in tandem with Cambio Healthcare's flexibility to prototype and change the digital list design, provided the Antrim Area Hospital Team to create a digital list that catered exactly to their operational and clinical needs.

In partnership with junior doctors and operational teams, Cambio Healthcare designed a weekend list view that prioritised simplicity and the easy dissemination of critical weekend patient information. Cambio Healthcare's platform view and design allowed for weekend teams to view patient testing and activity with ease; therefore making review decisions easy to make and execute on.

In the six months of testing, the working group stated that the digital list was preferred versus the previous paper solution across clinical and operational teams. They reported that the biggest benefits of the solution were flexibility in updating the list, ease in identifying priority reviews, keeping track of patients throughout the discharge process and reduction in time to create the list. Additionally, the digital list allowed for weekend patient discharge teams to work more efficiently with pharmacy teams to distribute and provide discharge medicines at a faster rate.

## **FUTURE BENEFITS** | Weekend Patient List Module



### **Long-Term Weekend List Management Strategy.**

Implementing the Weekend List module highlighted potential areas for long-term process improvement.



### **Improved User Experience**

Increased testing has improved user experience of creating and managing weekend patient list for the long-term



### **Weekend List Management Targets Met**

Allowed for Antrim Area Hospital working group to meet its targets for improving SQSF focus on design and approach



### **Weekly Data of Weekend Patient Review and Discharge**

Weekly capabilities of recording and analysing of weekend patient review, bloods, discharge and flow data throughout the hospital.

Contact us at [info@cambiohealthcare.co.uk](mailto:info@cambiohealthcare.co.uk) to find out more about our work in Antrim Area Hospital for the Northern Health and Social Care Trust



**Dr. Gareth Lewis**  
Consultant in Acute  
Medicine

Dr Gareth Lewis is a consultant in Acute Medicine and Nephrology.

Over the past four years, Dr Lewis has supported Antrim Area Hospital's acute care team in managing the treatment, timely transfer and safe discharge of patients.

Since beginning his work at the Trust, Dr Lewis and his team's quality-improvement approach to managing acute medical inpatients has tangibly improved the entire patient and care team experience.