

Team Name:

PaLS Pharmacy/PaLS EMM

Nominating Manager:

Sam Blackley

All Sewn Up

BHSCT Sutures Project

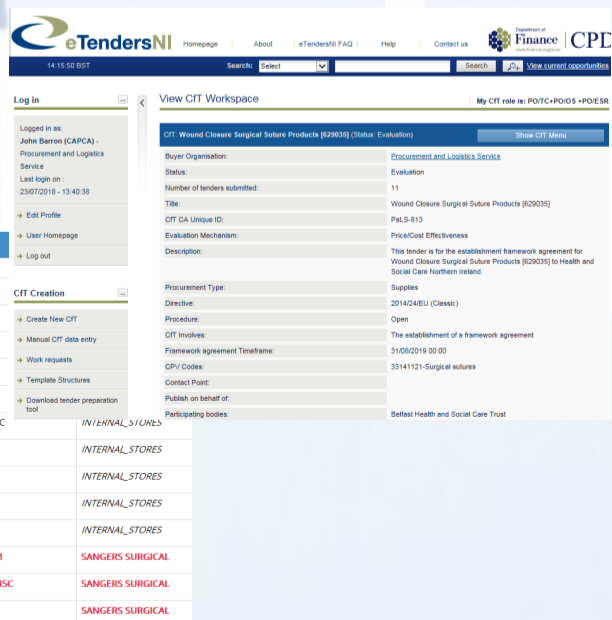
SITUATION

- BHSCT approached the PaLS Pharmacy Team to assist in delivering their strategy to improve pharmacy services to patients.
- The Trust identified that their service could be improved and better value delivered to patients if the time required to manage the current range of non-medicines could be reduced and the space used for storage and dispensing of drugs—the core business of a pharmacy.



ACTIONS

- The PaLS Pharmacy Procurement team set up a procurement project to award a framework to buy all required wound closure sutures.
- The award of the Wound Closure Framework allowed the PaLS Pharmacy Procurement team to place suture lines on the eProcurement catalogue, accessible to BHSCT.
- The PaLS Electronic Materials Management team worked with BHSCT Pharmacy to analyse usage data and identify regularly used lines suitable for PaLS Warehouse stock and lines to be ordered direct from supplier.
- The PaLS Electronic Materials Management team worked closely with BHSCT Pharmacy and Theatres to setup the new supply process, train users and provide close support in the early stages.



TASK

- One non-medicine product group identified was the supply chain for sutures (primarily to theatres). BHSCT tasked us with design and implementation of a supply chain for sutures that:
 - Removes the Trust Pharmacy Department from the supply chain (allowing greater focus on managing medicines)
 - Requires no additional effort from the end user (Theatres)
 - Ensures continuity of supply in this critical service area



RESULTS

- 4 hospital sites totalling 41 locations switching to Electronic Materials Management or eProcurement catalogue ordering.
- 356 suture products lines, totalling £650,000/year, previously manually ordered by BHSCT Pharmacy now ordered electronically.
- 87 lines with an estimated value £520,000/year will be replenished automatically through Electronic Materials Management.
- Pharmacy time released from ordering, queries, receipting, invoicing and top-up.
- Space made available in BHSCT Pharmacies for additional medicines.
- Interest already expressed by other Trusts in developing a similar solution.

