



CASE STUDY

Enterprise-wide capabilities enable standardization and more time for clinical care

Pyxis® ES system helps Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center standardize across the enterprise, providing a scalable platform for future growth.

As Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center experienced rapid growth as an integrated delivery network, the need to build a scalable medication management platform and standardize across the enterprise became a top priority. Of particular interest was connecting Pyxis® technology systems through a single integration engine—providing a single source of truth for their formulary, as well as improving user management across the health system. The new Pyxis ES system was their answer.

A platform to build upon

Streamlining pharmacy workflow, improving medication safety and optimizing patient care are common challenges in today's rapidly changing and complex healthcare landscape. Coupled with the need for integrated solutions

across three facilities, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center looked to standardize processes. “The main reason we went with the Pyxis ES system was the ability to have a platform for all campuses upon which we could build,” says Michael Mohundro, Senior Director of Pharmacy. “For example, we were heading in the direction of a unified formulary database that would save us time reconciling different databases and minimize confusion across different facilities.”

“The formulary interface was a strong reason why we went with the Pyxis ES system, as well as the Active Directory integration.”

Michael Mohundro, PharmD
Senior Director of Pharmacy
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center



Playing a stronger role in clinical care

By minimizing the pharmacists' role in administering the system, the Pyxis ES system enables pharmacists to expand their role in the patient care process. "Our administration is very pro-pharmacy," says Kevin Tripode, Supervisor of Pharmacy Services. "We are moving toward a model where our clinical pharmacists perform clinical functions at or near the bedside with rounding teams throughout the day, as they are in between their order entry functions. That way they are also available to assist the nursing staff with questions." In addition, remote web access allows the pharmacists to manage the system directly from patient care areas, whereas previously they were required to do so from the central console in the pharmacy. "The most impactful feature of the Pyxis ES system is the ability for me to be on any campus and work with the system at a moment's notice," says Tripode.

Freeing up pharmacist time

The Active Directory integration capabilities of the Pyxis ES system allowed for greater centralization of user management for the health system. With the pharmacy no longer needing to manage lost passwords, employee terminations or new hires, they could focus more on medication management and clinical functions. Users are now passed directly from Active Directory to the Pyxis ES system server. The hospital assigns users to the appropriate roles and areas—thus granting them privileges.

"It takes a considerable amount of time to manage all of the users, especially here because we have a very large student nurse population," says Mohundro. "Provisioning all of those users consumes a great deal of the pharmacist's time. We also need to provision them on the back end when they leave, so that they cannot access the system when they are no longer a part of the organization. So the ability for the Pyxis ES system to help remove that burden was a key driver of our decision."

What's next?

Building upon the Pyxis ES system, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center is planning to implement Pyxis ES Link in the coming months.

"We are upgrading to system version 1.3.4 currently, and we are also testing Pyxis ES Link, which is a very positive step forward for us," says Tripode. Pyxis ES Link is accessible from a web browser, allowing the nurse to remotely pre-select scheduled and PRN profiled medications for removal at the Pyxis MedStation ES system. "Once we are up and running on 1.3.4 we will identify a sample of units to test for Pyxis ES Link. We believe it will be well-received by our nursing staff. Some of our units are very large and they are somewhat distanced from our Pyxis MedStation ES Systems."

"Giving nurses more efficient tools to do their jobs better is a top priority."

Kevin Tripode, PharmD

Supervisor of Pharmacy Services at Livingston
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center - Livingston Parish

"Anything we can do to save them time is really going to be a big win for us. We want to get them what they need to take care of the patient," adds Mohundro.

About Our Lady of the Lake

Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center is a private not-for-profit 800-bed hospital in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, committed to building a healthy community through excellence in patient care and education. Our Lady of the Lake family of services also includes a dedicated Children's Hospital; 350-provider Physician Group primary care network, free-standing emergency room in Livingston Parish; Outpatient imaging and surgery centers; Assumption Community Hospital; a network of urgent care clinics; and Our Lady of the Lake College.

Note

* Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center's results reflect the hospital system's medication management process in conjunction with Pyxis technologies.

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