



Texas Children's Hospital experiences seamless conversion to XT Automated Dispensing Cabinets

Customer Profile

Texas Children's Hospital is the world's largest freestanding pediatric hospital. It is ranked No. 4 on the U.S. News & World Report Best Children's Hospitals 2020–2021 Honor Roll. The hospital has three campuses, 797-plus beds, and more than 31,000 annual admissions.

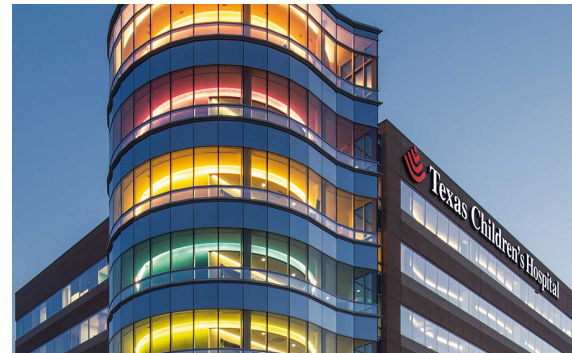
The Challenge

Texas Children's has been relying on Omnicell technology since 1995 to support efficient medication management for its mother-baby and pediatric patient populations. As an innovative leader, Texas Children's sought the most advanced technology available in automated medication dispensing cabinets.

When it came time to upgrade, pharmacy leaders chose XT Automated Dispensing Cabinets to meet its growing needs for more accountability, efficiency, and safety in medication management. But with 256 cabinets across three campuses, it needed a streamlined way to make the conversion – without interrupting patient care.

The Solution

The hospital worked side by side with Omnicell to create an efficient conversion process that minimized downtime and allowed staff to seamlessly maintain patient care. The time to switch out one cabinet? A mere 20 minutes.



Texas Children's Hospital
Houston, Texas

Challenge

- Maxed out medication storage capacity
- End of life technology
- Desire for increased security
- Sought standardization across campuses

Solution

- Omnicell® XT™ Automated Medication Dispensing Cabinet System
- Controlled Substance Dispenser

Impact

- Enhanced patient safety
- Increased workflow efficiency
- Improved capacity and efficiency
- Created a uniform system across campuses
- Achieved 20-minute cabinet swaps

The Impact

The XT cabinets received rave reviews from nurses. "It's been fantastic," said Gee Mathen, Director, Pharmacy Clinical Applications and Technical Services. "Everybody else was asking, 'When do we get ours?' It's been positive across the board."

Converting to XT Cabinets, Step by Step

Getting Ready

1. Texas Children's and Omnicell teams assessed the impacted areas and any space limitations.
2. Gaining leadership support was key. The hospital communicated extensively with senior leaders, nursing, pharmacists, Information Services, electronic health records staff, and other stakeholders.
3. The teams conducted testing and troubleshooting; created schematics of each drawer's contents (accounting for differences between G4 and XT bin sizes); and preconfigured the new XT cabinet by assigning bins and shelves, and labeling and barcoding non-controlled medications.

Going Live

Texas Children's began the conversion at one of its smaller satellite campuses.

The first cabinet swap took just 30 minutes; the team has quickly reduced that time to 20 minutes. The technical "transplant" involves five simple steps:

1. Roll up the new XT cabinet.
2. Destock the G4 cabinet and remove it from the server.
3. Bring the XT cabinet online.
4. Use inventory from the offline G4 cabinet to stock the XT cabinet.
5. Install the FlexLock Refrigerator Lock and Temperature Monitor, external return bins, and pull-out drawers for supplies.

The team meticulously timed every task in the planning and go-live process. This helped the hospital allocate the right resources and create on-time rollout schedules.

“ We were switching out a living, breathing unit. We couldn't afford to have a lot of downtime. Because of the way Omnicell had prepared for the conversion, it worked out beautifully.”

“ The biggest key was partnership – having the Omnicell team and techs right beside us and understanding our strategy.”

- **Gee Mathen**
Director, Pharmacy Clinical Applications and Technical Services
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