Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

Design, build and implementation of electronic prescribing and medicines administration in neonatal units across four UK hospital trusts

GPI Number: ISG13319
Contact data: Holly Jones (Highly Specialist Pharmacist – EPMA, CWFT), Nicola Vosser (Principal Pharmacist – EPMA, CWFT)

What was done

Development of a neonatal formulary on an existing Electronic Prescribing and Medicines Administration (EPMA) system shared by four UK hospital trusts, including design, build and validation of electronic workflows for protocols such as continuous variable rate drug infusions, intravenous fluids and parenteral nutrition.

Why was it done

Collaboration - support interdisciplinary decision making across trusts

Digital alignment - use same electronic prescribing system across all clinical areas

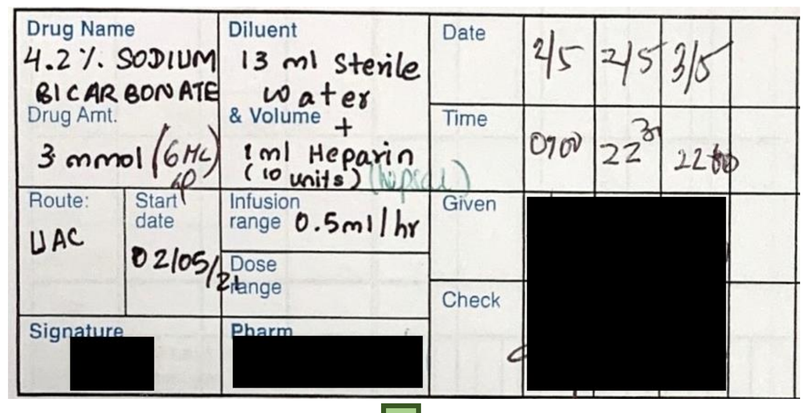
Innovation - facilitate effective use of digital systems in healthcare

Patient safety - facilitate safe prescribing and administration of medicines

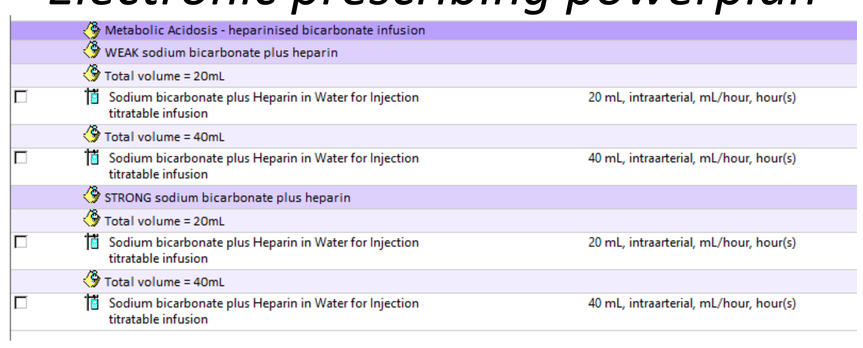
How was it done

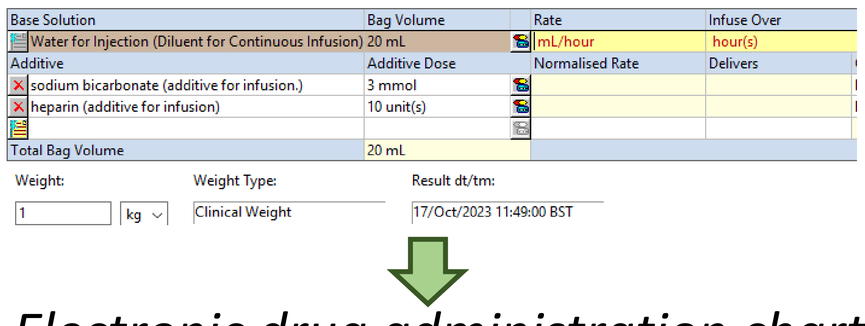
- Gap analysis of existing electronic drug catalogue
- Key guidelines shared to harmonise local differences
- Multidisciplinary decision making on new builds, including >30 neonatal prescribing plans for complex variable rate infusions and fluids, totalling >200 new/updated builds
- Extensive testing and validation
- Detailed and varied training
- Go-live planning and support

Paper drug chart prescribing

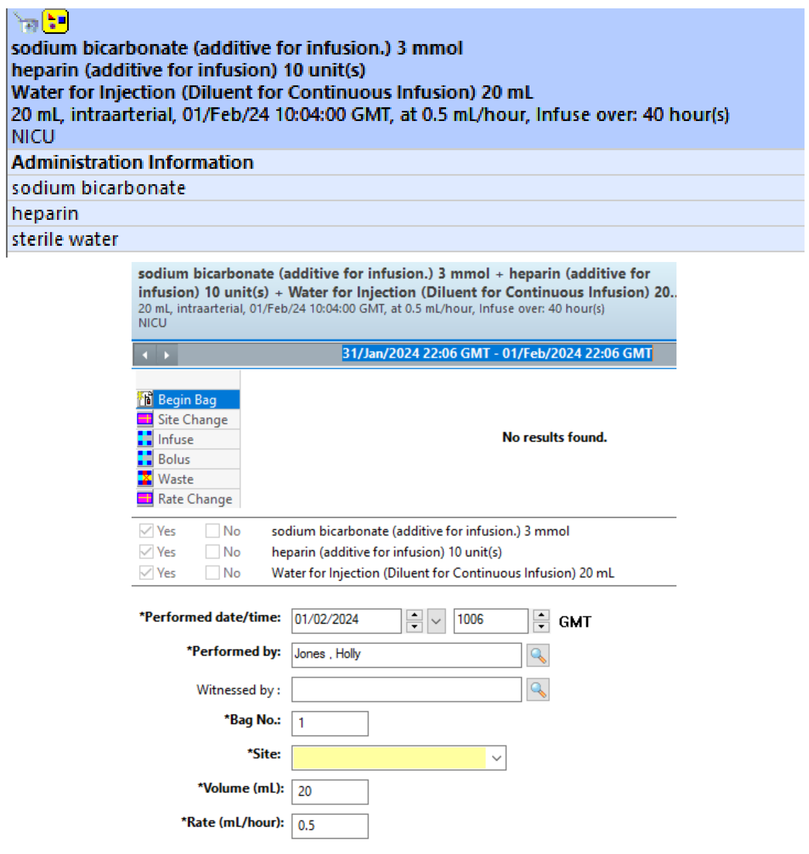


Electronic prescribing powerplan





Electronic drug administration chart



What has been achieved

- Successfully implemented a bespoke neonatal medication build at four UK hospital trusts
- Ability to clearly and safely prescribe medications and document administration, including adjustments of infusion rates
- Standardisation and improved continuity of care across regional hospitals
- Improved visibility and accuracy of patient records

What next

- Ongoing optimisation based on user feedback
- Implementation of electronic fluid balance charts
- Sharing of successes and challenges with other UK hospital trusts using the same EPMA system

eahp
european association of hospital pharmacists