



Willis-Knighton Health System Standardizes Emergency Department Operations With MEDHOST

Four-hospital Louisiana healthcare system leverages emergency department information system to streamline workflow and improve delivery of patient care

ADDISON, Texas – Feb. 11, 2008 – MEDHOST, provider of the leading Emergency Department Information System (EDIS), today announced that Willis-Knighton Health System in Shreveport, La., has standardized its emergency department (ED) operations by deploying MEDHOST across all four hospitals. Within the first 12 months of implementing the EDIS, Willis-Knighton streamlined its processes to collectively improve patient care. Willis-Knighton's reliance on a MEDITECH Hospital Information System (HIS) drove the Integrated Delivery Network's (IDN) decision to implement MEDHOST because it could seamlessly interface with MEDITECH.

Willis-Knighton leveraged MEDHOST's electronic charting to eliminate dictation, which resulted in a \$500,000 savings after just one year. The implementation of MEDHOST also led to improved regulatory and core measure compliance, more complete documentation, and more efficient processes giving clinicians more time at patient bedsides. The behind-the-scenes Charge Capture feature eliminated the intense manual auditing of handwritten charts, and accuracy in assigning levels of care improved, resulting in a significant per patient revenue increase. ED management has used MEDHOST's comprehensive reporting to gain a better understanding of ED operations and has justified staffing and other changes that led to lower turnaround times and higher patient satisfaction.

"Automating the ER process allows us to provide service to patients faster and better. Our goal is to provide quality care for our patients, and we believe the MEDHOST product is an important tool to help us achieve this goal," said James Elrod, CEO of Willis-Knighton.

Willis-Knighton selected MEDHOST because of its successful track record of integrating with MEDITECH and interfacing with ancillary departments. MEDHOST's ability to integrate with MEDITECH unified the health network's EDs because patient information can be recalled no matter which of the four hospitals the patient first visited, giving clinicians a full view of patient history.

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“Shreveport has come to expect the best from Willis-Knighton, and MEDHOST ensures that our patients are receiving timely and quality care,” said Susan Cash, ED director at Willis-Knighton. “MEDHOST empowered each ED to improve its processes, address the underlying needs of the network and help further enhance the level of care that patients receive from Willis-Knighton hospitals.”

“MEDHOST is particularly skilled at supporting the needs of an IDN like Willis-Knighton. Our proven integration, implementation and project management processes help our Customers meet their clinical and business objectives,” said Craig Herrod, president and CEO of MEDHOST. “We look forward to supporting Willis-Knighton with its clinical and technological innovations, and we are committed to helping the network strengthen its position as the leading caregiver to one of Louisiana’s most progressive communities.”

MEDHOST currently serves more than 130 facilities, including the Baylor Healthcare System in Texas, Catholic Healthcare West in California, Catholic Health System in New York and Tenet Healthcare Corporation. MEDHOST is the preferred EDIS provider of VHA Inc., a national cooperative serving more than 2,400 not-for-profit healthcare organizations. In addition to MEDITECH, MEDHOST easily integrates with leading hospital information systems, including Cerner, Siemens and McKesson.

About MEDHOST, Inc.

MEDHOST is a software solutions company that provides highly visual, easy-to-use process management technology for the healthcare industry. The MEDHOST product suite has been adopted by leading institutions throughout the United States and has proven to dramatically improve emergency department processes and financial performance. It is MEDHOST’s mission to ensure Customer satisfaction by providing the highest levels of quality, performance and service, as evidenced by top KLAS rankings year after year. Products include real-time Patient Tracking, Nurse Charting, Physician Documentation, Order Entry and comprehensive reporting. MEDHOST is headquartered in Addison, Texas.

Additional information is available at www.medhost.com.

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