# 2016  Clinical Case Study: Mobilising Nursing Assessments at the Point of Care

**Introduction**

Waitemata DHB's Innovation Group and Ward 10 - medical ward (North Shore Hospital) partnered with Orion Health to develop electronic Nursing Assessment forms. The aim of the project is  to increase patient safety and free up nursing time to care by improving access to information and decreasing documentation burden. Five of a total of ten mandatory forms of the nursing booklet have been digitised.

**Use of technology and/or information**

The solution was installed for use on iPads, desktop and mobile PCs on the ward. Technology has transformed nursing practice by allowing nurses to:

- Capture patient data at the point of care from a selection of mobile electronic devices

- Auto calculation and pre-population of patient data reducing time to manually calculate

- Preview an overall summary of the patient risks all in one screen

- Use of colour coding indicating high/low risk patients and overdue assessments

**Implementation**

I assisted with training of nurses through train the trainer sessions for three nurse trainers who provided in-person training on the ward. I provided both technical assistance to staff and assistance to patients whilst staff learnt to navigate and complete forms in the new system. This model of training worked well. Staff had positive relationships with the trainers from a previous electronic solution on the ward, trainers were confident showing nurses how to use the form given the familiarity of the content from the paper form, and the  digitised forms were more convenient to complete.

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**Conclusion**

- **Mobility has transformed nursing practice:** Providing nurses with mobility in their daily routine provides flexibility, improved patient data quality and timely access to clinical information.

- **Innovation is challenging when working across multiple vendors:** The complexity of working across three organisations proved challenging as specialised people required for technical troubleshooting could not dedicate time to the project due to external constraints.

- **Communication across all stakeholders important for project delivery:** Constant communication across all stakeholders was important to ensure all teams involved were clear on work requirements to meet customer expectations. Due to a lack of technical resolve this meant that delivery timeframes were extended further impacting on delivery of the solution and staff training resource.

- **There are no guarantees in the live system:** Even though rigorous vendor integration testing performed as expected, once in a live production environment issues presented which could only be seen once live across the hospital network.

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