

ABLOY UK SAVES CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY 356 NURSING HOURS A WEEK



CUMBERLAND INFIRMARY



Security expert Abloy UK has supplied Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, with PROTEC2 CLIQ® and Traka21 key management solutions for their drug cabinets, to improve the management of medicines and nursing efficiency.

Cumberland Infirmary is an NHS general hospital that includes a 24-hour A&E service, a Trauma Unit and a wide range of clinical services provided by its 5,000 members of staff.

The Trust had found controlling and monitoring access to medicines in a highly-demanding hospital environment a challenge, and were concerned about the security threat this could potentially pose.

Previously, the Infirmary used mechanical locks and keys to secure its medicines and cleaning utilities. A paper record was in operation for monitoring purposes, yet it proved unreliable with busy nurses unable to complete the record every time they obtained keys or accessed medicines. Also, valuable time could be wasted looking for keys – which posed a risk in emergency situations where access was needed immediately.





A recent security threat in the hospital prompted management to look for a more secure solution. The main objective was to ensure the security of medications was robust, and a full audit trail of access to cupboards and drug cabinets was readily available if required.

The Trust was aware that Abloy UK's compliant products had been successful in a variety of healthcare applications, so they approached the security expert to create a tailor-made system with Cumberland Infirmary in mind.

The Trust trialled a bespoke solution that combined PROTEC2 CLIQ®, innovative Traka21 key cabinets, and EL160 lock cases compliant to British Standard EN179. After a successful trial, Cumberland Infirmary commissioned the technology in 22 wards within the hospital, with Lockwise Locksmiths undertaking the installation.

The combination of PROTEC2 CLIQ® keys and cylinders were easily retrofitted to drug cabinets throughout the hospital, and staff CLIQ® keys were housed in Traka21 key cabinets fitted across the wards.

PROTEC2 CLIQ® is an easy-to-use access control system based on mechanical high security disc cylinders combined with highly encrypted electronic locking and identification.

Power to the lock is provided by the CLIQ® key, therefore no batteries or wires are required to either the lock or drug cabinet, making it an ideal retrofit solution – even for applications such as mobile drug trolleys.

The system allows for remote key management, providing comprehensive audit trails on locks and padlocks, and the ability to remove lost or stolen keys from the system, substantially increasing the security of controlled drugs.

PROTEC2 CLIQ® was combined with the Traka21 key management system, which provides nurses' access to a single key for the duration of their shift. By simply entering a PIN code to access a specific key which they validate using the wall programming unit, they can access every cabinet they're authorised to open.





Gareth Black, Resilience Manager at NHS Cumberland Infirmary, said: "Our focus throughout the process has always been to improve the security of the hospital. We found the system has not only significantly improved the management of medicines but has improved the efficiency of nurses as they do not have to waste time looking for lost keys.

"The CLIQ® system also gave us the ability to monitor access to drug cabinets, and its implementation resulted in a saving of 356 nursing hours per week across the 22 wards. The time saved gives our staff the opportunity to provide better care to their patients."

Rory Grant, Regional Specification Development Manager at Abloy UK, added: "UK infrastructure – the healthcare industry in particular – is under constant pressure to deliver cost savings and efficiencies while maintaining a high level of service.

"With this in mind, Abloy is able to create bespoke solutions tailored to the needs of the organisation, in this case securing drug cabinets across a vast number of wards and improving nursing efficiency in the process."

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