



Ospedale Maggiore "C.A. Pizzardi" - Ingresso Pedonale



Digistat[®] innovation in healthcare

The case of AUSL Bologna

Digitization in Bologna with Digistat

The Bologna local healthcare unit began adopting the Digistat platform in its operating rooms in 2012, with full implementation achieved in 2017. This is a very complex initiative that is a major step towards the digitization of operating theaters, with benefits in terms of assistance, quality of healthcare and cost containment. The project not only impacts a single hospital, but the health authority's entire territory. When fully operational there will be eight hospitals affected by digitization, each of which will include respective medical and support staff. The following figures give some idea of the scale of the work: the authority has a total of 1,310 beds, of which 618 are at the Maggiore Hospital and 199 at the Bellaria Hospital, with a work volume of over 27,000 surgeries, 10,000 of which will be performed at the Maggiore Hospital and a little less than half will be performed at the Bellaria Hospital. These numbers are a clear indicator of the project's complexity, both in terms of the quantity of cases and processes to be managed.





Main objectives of Digistat implementation

"I believe that Digistat is an important component in the process of empowering all stakeholders involved in the surgical process, because of the traceability of all phases and operations related to the performance of a surgical workflow and because of the transparency and usability of information which is otherwise difficult to obtain. The result we have now is a software solution that supports us at all times in terms of maintaining a precise and functional uniformity of language throughout all stages of the surgical process. During the solution's creation and implementation, we worked in close collaboration with Ascom staff, who responded quickly and efficiently to all our requests and needs."

Dr Alba Riccheo, Medical Anesthesia and Resuscitation Director, Operating Unit Surgery Manager OM Operators (SS)

The implementation of Digistat has contributed to an improved organization and efficiency of healthcare facilities, with a significant streamlining of procedures, the optimization of the integration of hubs (main hospitals) with secondary hospitals, and better traceability of the surgical workflow, with the following key stages:

- Operation planning
- Pre-operative patient management
- Intra-operative management
- Post intervention
- Surgical pharmacy materials management

In particular, regarding the path of the surgical patient - which involves various professionals, from the planning staff, to the staff involved in the management of the intra-operative system - all work is correctly recorded on Digistat and will be an integral part of the patient's surgical record.

In the different phases of the intervention, the theater nurse or anesthetist is guided through the compilation of the surgical checklist. As well as manual compilation, Digistat data can be processed using data obtained from the devices in the operating room. The patient's vital parameters are detected by anesthetic monitors and ventilators, and can be automatically imported into the system and validated manually and automatically in order to be displayed in a folder, in the form of tables and graphs. The materials used in the operating room are also recorded on the platform.

All the information necessary and useful for the surgical staff is summarized on a single Digistat screen. This, besides facilitating the work of clinical staff, can help improve the efficiency of procedures. Digistat® produces a surgical document that flows into the electronic healthcare record.



Management of medical devices

The adoption of Digistat is a decisive step forward for Bologna with regard to managing operating room medical devices (MeD). The creation of the Satellite Pharmacy surgical unit has defined the start of major multi-disciplinary integration between the professionals involved in setting up the surgical kits and includes, upstream, the definition of each single item of material necessary for each specific operation. Digitization of the entire process has made it possible for us to trace all the medical devices used for each patient and operation, and has facilitated verification of the suitability of the use of materials. The possibility of using the surgical note at least one day before the operation guarantees the verification of the availability of the materials, including implantable medical devices. Thanks to Digistat it has been possible to allocate economic resources in a timely manner to the individual operating units and to the individual patient, as the medical devices used for each intervention fall under costs specifically relating to the operating unit that used them, therefore guaranteeing accountability and optimization of workflows.

“Digistat is a fundamental component in the digitization process of healthcare facilities and I believe, from our direct experience here at the Maggiore Hospital, that it is a factor contributing to the significant improvement of surgical workflows. It has allowed us to free ourselves of paper data and work transcription, bringing immediate, shared benefits. Digistat enables an overview of all the surgical units, leading to more efficient calibration of our use of available resources, if necessary, and allowing us more efficiently calibrate the use of the resources at our disposal.”

Mauro Tiacci, DATeR Manager of the Surgical Units Module (PBO) and Single Sterilization Center HUB



To find out more about Digistat at Maggiore Hospital, please watch the video:
<https://bit.ly/2M5A6HT>

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