Order management of blood products at Erasmus MC

At Erasmus MC 38,000 blood products are administered every year to over 4000 patients. To streamline the process of reserving, distributing and administering blood products the hospital started managing this process digitally. This also improves patient safety.

Benefits: improving patient safety

- Correctly completed forms with the product
- Correct patient materials
- Correct patient

Collection of blood

The doctor requests an Hb measurement which requires a blood test. The nurse sees this request appear on the computer screen. This is how it works:

- 1. She scans the patient's bracelet and prints out the label for the tube.
- 2. She scans her employee badge, sticks the label on the tube and scans the tube.
- 3. Then the nurse takes a blood sample.
- 4. The blood is sent to the lab and the test request is sent off digitally.
- 5. The blood sample comes in by pneumatic tube. Employee has to report it.
- 6. The tube is scanned and can be put into the blood analyzer. Then the blood test is done.

Issuance of blood

The doctor gets the results quickly and orders a blood product. The nurse picks up the blood product from the lab. This is how it works:

- 1. The lab employee first scans herself, then the patient identification number and the label on the blood product.
- 2. Next she scans the unit number and finally the product code.
- 3. When everything is in order, the nurse scans her employee badge and returns to the ward.



Administer blood

The nurse receives the transfusion order from the doctor. This is how it works:

- 1. After checking the patient's parameters, the nurse scans her employee badge again.
- 2. She then scans the patient's bracelet and the label on the product.
- 3. When everything is in order, the blood transfusion can be started.

Benefits: improving efficiency

- Error probability decreases: 1 on 100 keyboard input versus 1 on 10.000.000 scans
- Order progress information
- Faster reports from the laboratory

GS1 Netherlands proposes the 'GS1 Global Traceability Standard for Healthcare'

