

Online access to patient data and entry of services during doctors' rounds:

The University Hospital of Ulm deploys the mobile Electronic Patient File to optimize patient care and documentation



»By taking a direct approach and adapting the solution concept ideally to in-hospital requirements, Fujitsu Siemens Computers ensured that the Mobile Patient File project showed the first signs of success within a short time.«

Alwin Ziesel, User Services, University Hospital of Ulm

→ The Customer

University Hospital
of Ulm, Germany
(Universitätsklinikum
Ulm AöR)

www.uniklinik-ulm.de

→ The Project

Improvement in
treatment and docu-
mentation with online
access to patient data
and bedside entry of
services rendered

→ The Solution

Connection of
STYLISTIC Tablet PC
and Convertible
LIFEBOOK mobile
clients to the hospital
information systems
via WLAN and Citrix
Presentation Server

Providing the best possible treatment and care of patients is the highest priority for hospitals. At the same time, they have to meet healthcare documentation requirements and ensure that the organizational aspect of the "hospital business enterprise" runs smoothly. This is a challenge that calls for a mobile infrastructure of the highest technical standard, one that allows optimal patient care by doctors and nursing staff to be brought in line with efficient, time-saving administrative procedures and documentation. By turning to Fujitsu Siemens Computers, the University Hospital of Ulm got just what the doctor ordered: a seamlessly integrated solution with STYLISTIC and LIFEBOOK mobile clients.

University Hospital of Ulm

With some 1,100 beds and about 5,500 employees, the University Hospital of Ulm provides the best possible medical care for all specialties. At its core are the hospitals, with primarily three locations. A key provider of medical care to a large patient catchment area, the University Hospital of Ulm has a capacity utilization rate of 75.4 percent, as its 2004 in-patient performance data shows. The hospital is an institution of the University of Ulm with legal capacity and fulfils its statutory duties in the areas of medical care, continuing education and training of staff and public health care. In close cooperation with the Medical School of the University of Ulm, it also makes an important contribution to medical teaching and research.



Benefits for the University Hospital of Ulm

- Powerful, mobile end-to-end concept with optimum data protection and high degree of user friendliness
- Rapid availability of all relevant patient data during rounds
- Efficient and time-saving documentation at the patient's bedside
- More time for individual patient care thanks to the time saved on routine procedures
- More simplified administration of client applications due to server-based architecture

The solution at a glance

- Mobile workstation for doctors and nursing staff
- Mobile clients: STYLISTIC ST5022 and LIFEBOOK T4010 with Windows® XP Tablet PC Edition
- Server connection: WLAN; Citrix Presentation Server
- Application infrastructure: KIS SAP IS-H and i.s.h.med, SAP SRM ordering system, PACS Agfa, Orgacard food service management software
- Database: Oracle
- Planned: Deployment of Pocket LOOX

The goal: Bedside access and entry of treatment-relevant data

The electronic patient file is undoubtedly a milestone in medical care. However, its full benefits can only be reaped if it is available anytime, anywhere. The University Hospital of Ulm previously had the problem that important patient data was not available or could not be entered right where it would have been preferable for a number of reasons – at the patient's bedside during doctors' rounds or for medical or nursing activities in the patient's room. The advantages of a mobile workstation for doctors and nursing staff are obvious. Available medical findings, from the patient file and medical letters to radiological images from PACS, can be accessed in a matter of seconds, giving doctors the basis to make decisions on further treatment steps while they are on their rounds. What's more, the therapeutic and nursing measures taken can be documented right at the point of care. Sources of error due to, say, subsequent data entry or data transfer to the electronic patient file are eliminated. Doctors and nursing staff gain valuable time that they can devote to giving their patients the individual care they need.

Reaching the goal

As a competent and experienced partner in the field of optimizing processes, Fujitsu Siemens Computers was on hand to support the University Hospital of Ulm in achieving these goals. Uncomplicated trial installations and an optimal alignment of the individual components allowed the first pilot projects to get off to a fast start. The solution concept also takes into consideration the special requirements associated with the use of mobile clients in a hospital environment.

The mobile clients deployed are connected to the hospital applications via an electromagnetically compatible WLAN and deliver both a high degree of functionality and easy handling for users. The built-in trusted platform module also ensures that special data protection requirements for the handling of patient data are met. The University Hospital of Ulm opted for authentication via the integrated Smart Card reader. The administration of client applications was also handled securely and efficiently. They are made available to the mobile devices via a central Citrix server – and with wireless access, the data and applications remain at the protected data center.

Current status and outlook

The hospital is currently checking the applications and is making sure that the technical requirements for them are in place. The "Mobile Doctor's Rounds" has already been tested on several wards with successful results. A further step towards "enhanced mobility" is planned – the use of the Pocket LOOX for entering food data. Working together with Fujitsu Siemens Computers, the hospital was able to achieve several positive results at once by deploying mobile clients. They make the work easier and save time for the medical and nursing staff, and also increase the efficiency and transparency of processes and documentation. All this ultimately benefits those who are the focal point of every action at the hospital – the patients.

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