

Alfa CD



Controlled drug management

Digital, auditable, inspection-ready

For NHS trusts, hospital pharmacies and accountable officers

operating under the Misuse of Drugs Regulations and CQC / NHS CD governance frameworks

THE CHALLENGE

Controlled drug governance remains heavily dependent on paper-based processes that were never designed for real-time oversight. As trusts move away from paper ordering books, many encounter new challenges in verifying authorised signatories and maintaining an auditable approval process. Discrepancies often emerge days or weeks after they occur, inspection evidence must be gathered manually, and accountable officers carry compliance risk that should be absorbed by the system itself. Without a complete digital chain of custody, organisations lack the visibility needed to identify issues early, demonstrate compliance confidently, and intervene before risks escalate.

OUR SOLUTION

Alfa CD replaces paper-controlled drug registers and ordering books with a purpose-built digital platform for controlled drug governance. Combining digital signatory verification, real-time discrepancy detection, and a tamper-proof audit trail, Alfa CD creates a complete chain of custody from ordering to dispensing. The result is inspection-ready compliance, earlier identification of risk, reduced administrative burden, and greater assurance for accountable officers.

SOLUTION IMPACT

Alfa CD is co-designed with University Hospitals Birmingham (UHB), where it is in full deployment across four hospital sites. Measurable outcomes have been captured in a case study and include:

77,000+ clinical hours returned annually	98% compliance rate (up from 67%)	80% faster CD administration	11 weeks to go live across 4 hospital sites	100% digital ordering process
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“Alfa CD has fundamentally changed how we manage controlled drugs across UHB. It has improved safety, strengthened governance and, most importantly, returned valuable clinical time back to patient care.”

Professor Inderjit Singh, Chief Pharmacist, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

CORE CAPABILITIES



ELECTRONIC CD REGISTERS

Every transaction - order, receipt, administration, disposal - logged in real time with running balance, witness attribution and patient reference. Nothing retroactively alterable.



DIGITAL SIGNATURES AND WITNESSING

Replace paper order books with a digital ordering workflow. Orders are transmitted instantly, eliminating physical delivery. Configurable electronic signatures, witnessing and approval workflows enforce compliance automatically.



IMMUTABLE AUDIT TRAIL

Tamper-proof end-to-end record from receipt to dispensing or disposal - structured for regulatory inspection from day one, not assembled before a visit. Every order, witness, stock movement and administration event is linked in a single auditable record.



AUTOMATED DISCREPANCY DETECTION

Discrepancies surface at receipt, administration or stock check - not days later. Configurable escalation routes issues immediately; structured resolution workflow produces a full auditable record.



PHYSICAL ACCESS CORRELATION

Cabinet-access events correlated with the CD transaction record on one investigation screen - who opened the cabinet, when, and whether access was granted. Efficient and unique approach to discrepancy investigations.



CONFIGURABLE GOVERNANCE

Role-based permissions, segregation of duties and approval workflows configurable per regulatory context. The same product meets different national and local requirements through configuration, not custom builds.

WHAT CHANGES FOR YOU



CLINICAL AND PHARMACY STAFF

FASTER DAILY STOCK CHECKS

Only CDs not yet verified that day are shown, as administrations already count toward the daily check.



ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS

WALK INTO INSPECTION WITHOUT PREPARATION WORK

The audit trail is always complete and in inspection format.



IT AND GOVERNANCE LEADS

REMOVES COMPLIANCE RISKS

Alfa CD makes compliance a structural property of the workflow, not a reliance on individual diligence.

ONE WORKFLOW, START TO FINISH

A single digital record replaces the paper register, the CD log and the reconciliation process.

INVESTIGATIONS WITH THE FULL PICTURE

Digital transaction record and physical cabinet-access timeline on one screen.

NO INFRASTRUCTURE OVERHEAD

Browser-based user interface, with standards-based integration into existing clinical and pharmacy systems.

INSTANT PHARMACY ORDERING

Orders reach pharmacy immediately, eliminating paper requisitions and returning time to frontline care.

SEE RISKS BEFORE THEY BECOME INCIDENTS

Real-time discrepancy detection highlights issues as they occur, not weeks later during audit.

RAPID DEPLOYMENT, LOW OPERATIONAL IMPACT

Proven deployment across four hospital sites in 11 weeks without service disruption.

ALFA CD ALTERNATIVES

		
CAPABILITY	PAPER REGISTER	ALFA CD
• Real-time discrepancy detection • Witness and sign-off enforcement • Immutable, inspection-ready audit trail • Physical cabinet-access correlation • Unified audit, witness and stock record • Scan based administration (Scan4Safety) • Time-optimised stock reconciliation • Electronic ordering and requisitions • Instant pharmacy visibility of orders • Elimination of paper order books • Real-time compliance monitoring • Inspection-ready at any time • Automated discrepancy alerts • Structured workflow enforcement	X	✓
• Partial-unit and stock-bottle handling • Digital signatory verification	Manual	✓
• Complete chain of custody	Partial	✓
• Ward-to-pharmacy paper transport required	✓	X

WHY ALFA CD



PURPOSE BUILT FOR CD

Witnessing, electronic ordering, discrepancy investigation, audit trails and stock handling are designed around the operational and regulatory realities of controlled drug governance.



UNIFIED CONTROLLED DRUG RECORD

Orders, approvals, witness records, stock movements and audit activity are captured in one platform, eliminating fragmented paper records and providing a single source of truth for controlled drug governance.



CLINICAL TIME RETURNED TO PATIENT CARE

Digital ordering, scan-based administration and faster stock checks remove the administrative burden that paper CD management places on nurses and pharmacists - time that goes back to patients.

CONTACT US

Talk to us about your CD workflow

We walk through your current CD governance workflow and show you where Alfa CD changes it



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