

Newton Medical Center Uncovers COVID-19 Insights with MEDITECH's BCA Solution

When COVID-19 struck, leadership at Newton Medical Center knew it was imperative that staff have timely access to the data they need to make the best, most informed decisions, whether related to bed occupancy, testing, or PPE. To do so, they turned to MEDITECH's Business and Clinical Analytics (BCA) solution.

Dashboards in BCA provide staff with a single source of truth for critical information, while also eliminating time-consuming manual data collection. By leveraging BCA and working alongside MEDITECH's Professional Services, Newton Medical Center created COVID-19 dashboards to uncover insights needed to care for their patients during the pandemic.

"We used MEDITECH's Professional Services for a project in the past and they were very responsive and great to work with," said Kelly Lippold, director of Clinical Informatics. "We wanted to track patients in-house who had been tested and run occupancy stats from certain locations, but our Professional Services analyst brought more ideas to the table and expanded what we would be able to look at."

Professional Services assisted the hospital's Incident Command team with evaluating, designing, and testing BCA dashboards, and creating reports to achieve their organizational goals. Newton Medical Center's daily operational huddles are conducted based on data from three key dashboards:

Snapshot:

Provides a real-time view of in-house patients, what locations they're in, their testing status, and the number of

patients on ventilators. Management also uses this dashboard to filter out key areas of concern, such as monitoring the hospital's occupancy rate to prepare for potential step-down overflow units. A "Test Pending" special indicator monitors patients across care settings; if patients are tested and diagnosed in an outpatient setting and later return to the inpatient setting with more serious symptoms, the indicator is still present.

Lab Tests:

Staff can monitor all lab tests by date range and zip code (for possible disease clusters). They can also track the volume of testing to prevent overtesting if supplies are short. Turnaround times for tests sent to state and reference labs are also tracked so the hospital can follow up on any delays.

Supply Tracking:

Pulls supply reports into BCA through integration with MEDITECH's Materials Management and uses this data to monitor items in high demand. The Materials Management director reviews the average quantity used by day to determine the item's "burn rate." The result is compared to trends over time to calculate the "days left on hand" for that item, based on CDC recommendations, which is submitted to the state to justify supply purchases.

"Capturing supplies through BCA has simplified the life of our Materials Management director. She can focus on what we need versus spending time figuring out what we already have," said Lippold.

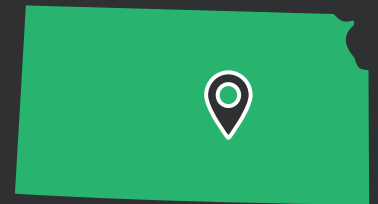


Newton Medical Center at a glance...

Newton Medical Center (Newton, KS) is a 103-bed, not-for-profit facility that provides healthcare services to the residents of Harvey and its surrounding counties.

About Newton Medical Center:

- Recognized by Healthgrades® for the fourth consecutive year for outstanding patient experience (2017-2020)
- One of The Chartis Center for Rural Health's Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals in the United States
- Recognized as one of America's 100 Great Community Hospitals by *Becker's Hospital Review* for the fourth consecutive year



"The BCA COVID-19 tool helps communicate important data points with key stakeholders and medical staff, without text-heavy attachments. This dashboard is a valuable tool for arming managers with real-time statistics related to the state of COVID-19 within the Newton Medical Center health system."

Heather Porter
Chief Clinical Officer
and Incident Commander
Newton Medical Center

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