Improving Medical Equipment Tracking at Muncy Valley Hospital

Overview
Muncy Valley Hospital’s Skilled Nursing Unit did not have any way to track medical equipment in its facility. They did not know quantities, types, or where the equipment was located. In addition, nurses would spend unnecessary time searching for equipment. By creating a Microsoft Access Database, the Skilled Nursing Unit is now able to keep track of where and when equipment is being moved within its facility.

Objectives
To develop a tracking system for medical equipment to be used in Muncy Valley Hospital's Skilled Nursing Unit.

Approach
• Visited Muncy Valley Hospital Skilled Nursing Unit
• Talked to nurses
• Research possible inventory tracking systems and barcoding
• Brainstormed wheelchair labelling techniques
• Conducted a customer needs assessment for the wheelchair labelling options
• Produced physical labels for the wheelchairs
• Decided on Microsoft Access to create the database
• Generated the tables and relationships for the database
• Created the forms, user interface screens, and reports
• Ran database testing on test subjects
• Created training material for wheelchair labelling and database use

Outcomes
• Muncy Valley Hospital Skilled Nursing Unit now has a way to track its medical equipment
• Less time will be spent looking for equipment in the facility
• Information about the equipment can be viewed in reports
• Equipment history is now tracked
• All wheelchairs have a tag and a unique ID
• Training material is available to help train current and future employees