# CASE STUDY

Southampton Anaesthetic Service (SAS) breeze through the logistical challenge of 60 individuals, 4 locations and 100 lists a month

**mch** | Software Solutions

# Introduction

- Southampton Anaesthetic Service (SAS) is a group of independent consultant anaesthetists.
- Individual anaesthetists work in University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust and local independent hospitals across Hampshire.

# The story of SAS

At the time of publishing, SAS consisted of 63 individual consultants that cover all areas of anaesthetic practice. The locations they work at include Nuffield Health Wessex Hospital, Spire Southampton Hospital, Sarum Road Hospital and Optegra Eye Hospital Hampshire.

Together they perform over 100 lists a month.

The very nature of SAS as an organisation poses a huge logistical challenge: coordinating over 60 independent individuals across multiple locations and 100 lists every month. Before engaging with MCH Anaesthetics, valuable hours were being wasted on inefficient and costly management processes.

SAS decided to work with MCH because the Anaesthetics product was built specifically for anaesthetists in collaboration with anaesthetists.

Time was spent ensuring that the detailed working processes of the group and the hospitals were taken into account. This has meant that MCH Anaesthetics is now the only dedicated product tailored to meet the demands of this user group.

# The challenge SAS faced before MCH Anaesthetics

SAS approached the MCH team to try to assist them in solving the recurring challenge of allocating over 60 anaesthetists to over 100 ad hoc surgical lists every single month.

With time and resources at a premium, the hours spent every week trying to pin down busy doctors were hours that were proving to be inefficient and costly. Secretaries were spending up to a day and a half a week allocating lists.

# Why SAS chose MCH Anaesthetics

SAS evaluated several scheduling solutions, but recognised they needed more than generic software. They required a product that understood the intricacies of managing independent anaesthetists across multiple hospital locations and ad hoc theatre sessions. MCH Anaesthetics was the only solution that offered true customisation, built specifically for their working practices, rather than adapted from other industries.

Equally important were the robust security standards and the reliability SAS needed to trust MCH with their scheduling operations. MCH's bespoke approach, combined with secure hosting and proven dependability, made it the only choice.

# How SAS used MCH Anaesthetics

SAS started saving hundreds of administrative work hours because MCH Anaesthetics is available to doctors and administrative staff 24/7. Straight away they could choose when and how to respond to available work. Real-time updates ensure there is no delay in the process: time is saved at every step of the allocation process and insurance company pricing databases are integrated in order to highlight the worth of the job.

Reporting and email automation add even further benefits as no one is receiving any messages or notifications unless they are relevant.

In addition to this online hosting negates any issues with storage or security that might otherwise be experienced with installed software.

> The MCH Anaesthetics system has been a real blessing. It saves us a huge amount of time in not having to look up operation codes and fees, as MCH Anaesthetics does all this for us. The responses are indicated clearly in colour co-ordination, so you can see at a glance who is free and equally important who is not. I would recommend MCH Anaesthetics to any business that works on a scheduling basis. Simple to use and clear to read.
>
> **Stephanie Vernon,**
> Senior Administrator, Southampton Anaesthetic Services

# The results

Using MCH Anaesthetics, the office team reduced administrative hours to minutes when it comes to list allocation. With the time saved they can spend time doing the more important tasks that help run the business.

MCH Anaesthetics has meant the SAS can see which of the 60 anaesthetists in their group are available to cover the 100 ad hoc theatre sessions they cover per month.

The product saves hours and hours of secretarial time, more than paying for itself. For the anaesthetists it takes just 2 clicks to add all the relevant information straight into their digital diaries.

Members of the SAS group only get notified of operating lists that they have chosen to know about. They don't get inundated with emails about lists they would never do. The office team and the anaesthetists at SAS have quickly grown to love the system.

### *And there is more...*

Since the launch of the platform the MCH team has been busy further developing the capability to meet the needs of the SAS team. We have introduced digital invoicing for anaesthetists, patient feedback and anaesthetist logbook reporting.

If your healthcare organisation is interested in benefiting from the huge savings that can be made using MCH Anaesthetics, please contact us today on

✉ **team@mchss.co.uk**    📞 **+44 0333 8800 333**