



## HOSPITAL IMPLEMENTATION CASE STUDY

GraftTracker® keeps all tissue data just a few keystrokes away

### HOSPITAL

The hospital is a 235-bed hospital in Maryland.

### CHALLENGE

Tissue information management outgrew a simple spreadsheet application.

### RESULT

The hospital now has a system that makes managing complex tissue data simple and easily accessible.

“ I can see all of our data at a glance. ”

Perioperative Resources Coordinator

A Maryland hospital faced the same challenge all hospitals face—how to effectively and efficiently manage the complex data associated with tracking bone and tissue. They had outgrown a basic spreadsheet application, resulting in staff time spent duplicating records on the spreadsheet and paper, and more administrative time spent ensuring that key data was tracked accurately. The hospital needed a system that was capable of managing the extensive data associated with tissue tracking, while still having an interface that would be easy to use for the staff. GraftTracker meets both of these needs.

### Spreadsheet Tracking: Time Consuming & Repetitive

The hospital experienced many administrative challenges while using a spreadsheet system for tracking bone and tissue used throughout the hospital. As the products came into the hospital, they were manually entered into a spreadsheet. The file included different tabs for each bone or tissue item, making the file cumbersome to work with. There was also the challenge of tracking multiple quantities with the same lot numbers.

The system that developed using the spreadsheet essentially created double work for the staff. Both the spreadsheet and a paper implant record form had to be completed for each bone or tissue used. The paper forms and the spreadsheet were meant to back each other up, however this duplication of effort represented an extensive investment of staff time.

The challenges of a manual paper and spreadsheet based system were highlighted during recalls in the past few years. An announced recall would result in multiple staff members spending many days tracking down paper-based patient records to ensure a proper response to the recall.



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Product Code	Lot Number	Expiration Date	Qty	Location
8799	889376252	10/16/2009	1	489
887845	764324	10/16/2009	1	732
10228 PD	20441979	11/03/2009	1	727
871301	7082123	10/17/2009	1	729
89536	407682	10/28/2009	1	732
871849	817881402	10/12/2009	1	489
781843	817620748	10/24/2009	1	732
781843	817620544	10/24/2009	1	712
211220	817620748	10/12/2009	1	489
402418	10820781029	10/27/2009	1	732
402418	10820781029	10/27/2009	1	732
875532-42	1027054202	10/16/2009	1	732
442275	87754201	11/06/2009	1	732
442276	88998189208	10/16/2009	1	732
142280	0738824900028	10/16/2009	1	732
442216	10820781029	10/28/2009	1	732
838258	017447081084	10/17/2009	2	697
102288 PD	7854321	10/14/2009	1	732
102288 PD	8875947	10/29/2009	1	489
88401081	0749188	10/21/2009	1	732

Transitioning from a basic spreadsheet application to the GraftTracker program has resulted in more efficient and effective data tracking for the hospital

Learn more about GraftTracker  
[www.GraftTracker.com](http://www.GraftTracker.com)  
**866.803.3720**

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## GraftTracker®: Efficient and Effective

Staff from the hospital first learned about GraftTracker at an Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN) meeting. They looked at multiple programs and determined that GraftTracker included the most options that were important for their tissue management needs.

The Perioperative Resources Coordinator, described the changes since implementing GraftTracker, "I can see all of our data at a glance, including the expiration date and FDA certificates for any piece of bone or tissue." The program significantly reduces the burden on her position to manage the collection and organization of data relating to tissues, resulting in far less time spent on these tasks. While some staff members were initially concerned that the new system would take up a lot of time, they soon realized that data management with GraftTracker takes less than a minute. From then on, the Resource Coordinator said that, "the staff liked it!"

While the hospital had not recently been through a Joint Commission audit prior to implementing GraftTracker, they definitely experienced the benefit of having the program in place for a recent audit. The Perioperative Resources Coordinator described how with just a few keystrokes she was able to provide all the information the auditor needed on a specific tissue, including when it arrived, where it was stored, and how it looked. The auditor was impressed by the efficiency and accuracy of the data stored in the GraftTracker program.

With all of the staff fully trained on the program, GraftTracker has significantly reduced the amount of administrative time needed to manage the bone and tissue data. By ensuring that data is tracked efficiently and effectively, the program has become an integral part of the hospital's patient care.

