

## EXPERIENCE THE SYNMED® DIFFERENCE IN PHARMACY AUTOMATION



Synergy Medical, an expert manufacturer of automated pharmacy systems, say that pharmacies using its SynMed® technology for high throughput dispensing of solid oral medications are freeing up technical and professional pharmacy staff's time for more patient facing activities. This is resulting in pharmacies offering health-driven services including completing Medicines Use Reviews (MURs) and public health campaigns.

With more patients using monitored dosage systems (MDS), pharmacies are

struggling to keep pace. One solution is to use automated dispensing systems, such as SynMed® ULTRA and SynMed® XF to reduce dispensing costs and enhance safety and precision. The combination of embracing technology and redeploying resources is increasing capacity to meet greater health demands. For example, pharmacy branches whose MDS are produced by SynMed® technology state that they now have time to run a range of private services such as diabetic screening, travel vaccination, blood pressure monitoring and weight management clinics.

SynMed® ULTRA and SynMed® XF systems are helping pharmacies boost productivity by using pick and place technology to dispense tablets via suction pipettes. This improves precision and patient safety by avoiding cross contamination, as well as system downtime for staff to clean excess powder inside systems, which regularly occurs with gravity container equipment that dispense drugs from canisters using a common chute.

Using a SynMed® XF system, just one technician can accurately dispense solid medication in 240 blister packs every eight-hour shift (over 1000

packs/week) while SynMed® ULTRA, can produce over 3000 blister packs/week with two operators. This is a fraction of the time it would take to manually fill packs and means that pharmacies can increase productivity and confidently grow their business to take on new patients without compromising safety.

Unlike many pharmacy automation systems, SynMed® has the capacity to hold 400 to 500 drug containers, covering 98 per cent of the total drug requirement for MDS production. Since pharmacists using the system only need to dispense two to five per cent of their drugs manually, this reduces labour time and cost, as

well as the risk of making dispensing errors.

Versatility is another benefit and SynMed® systems can prepare single and multi-dose blister packs using more than 35 pack formats from all the popular manufacturers. Pharmacies have freedom from being locked into a single manufacturer's proprietary pack, as well as flexibility to adapt to new target markets and negotiate contract prices. Additionally, utilising SynMed® technology, pharmacy staff can calibrate containers on-site within five minutes, eliminating the downtime and expense of sending them to a third-party for calibration.

The unique selling point for the SynMed® was the fact that we did not have to calibrate the canisters, also the speed, the efficiency. It has changed the way we run our business on a day to day basis, it has helped pharmacists develop other services».

Dara O'Malley, Pharmacist Owner,

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