

# How Millions of Patients are Benefitting from Inventory Management Powered by RFID



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Health systems across the US are driving an advanced, progressive world of modern healthcare. Despite groundbreaking treatments and world-class care, many hospitals are faced with the daily task of manually assessing and restocking inventory – specifically medication kits and trays that are distributed hospital-wide for use in crash carts, operating rooms, and EMS bags. A decade ago, Bluesight embarked on a mission to revolutionize hospital inventory management with KitCheck®, a pioneering RFID-based system that has since transformed inventory management in hundreds of hospitals across North America.

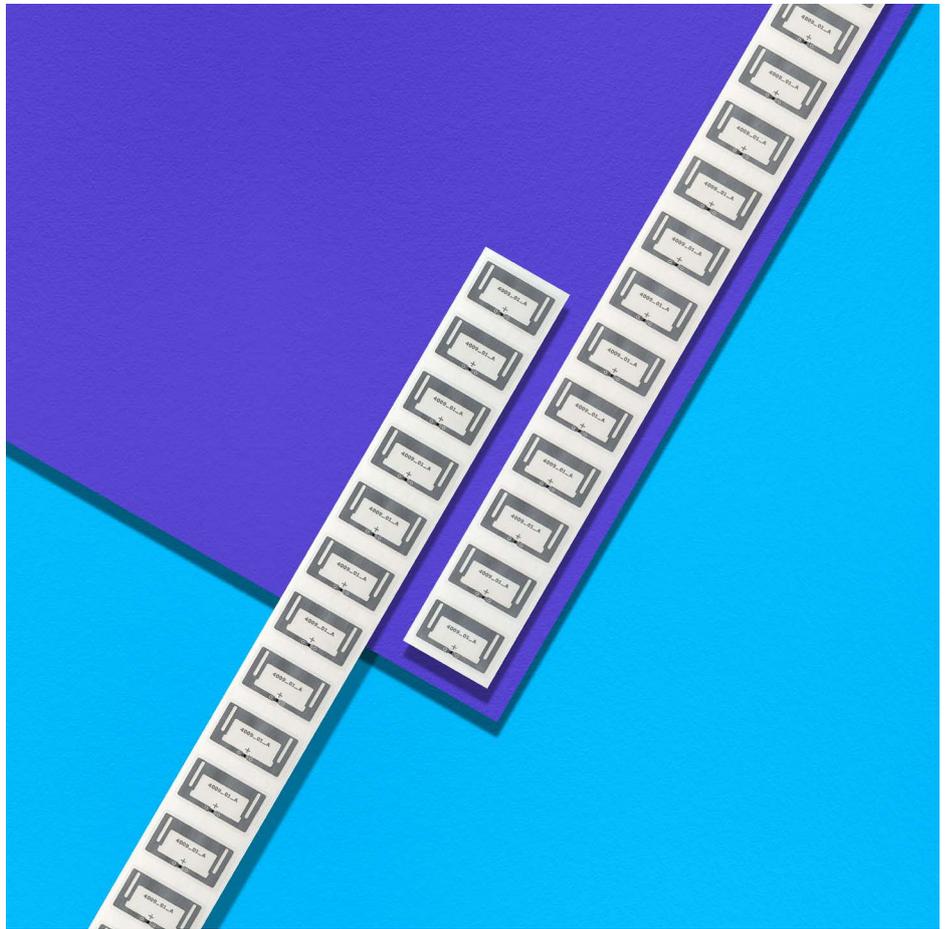


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## The Challenge:

### The Traditional Process

The traditional process of managing medication inventory relied on a team of pharmacy technicians and pharmacists handling hundreds of individual doses for kits and trays, which would then be distributed across the hospital wards where emergency drugs could be within reach at a moment's notice. It was prone to errors, and while one mistake could affect patient care, the necessary diligence was time-consuming. The founders of KitCheck® believed digital technologies could expedite and enhance the accuracy of tracking, restocking, and dispatching of inventory while reducing the burden on pharmacists and technicians. It could also predict optimal inventory levels, significantly reduce the number of expired medications, and decrease waste.



## The Solution:

### Product Development and Innovation

Working in collaboration with Avery Dennison's digital identification specialists, KitCheck® developed an RFID-based solution specifically for medicines used routinely in hospitals. Using AD Minidose for smaller products, every dose of medicine is tagged with a unique identity using RFID technology. The tag can be applied at the hospital, or pre-applied at the distributor or manufacturer. When a kit returns to the pharmacy it's unknown exactly which products need to be replenished – until the kit is scanned and the pharmacist or technician is notified of precisely which medications must be restocked, down to the unit dose. Once restocked, a final scan will either confirm that the kit is 100% accurate or specify any errors.

This simple, efficient process not only provides real-time insights into medication inventory levels, but it also enhances patient safety and regulatory compliance with visibility into expiration dates and swift management of recalls and shortages.



Through KitCheck® we've facilitated a meaningful shift from time consuming manual process to automated, data driven approach that saves time, and enhances patient safety and compliance.

**TJ Bozada,**

KitCheck Product Manager



## Results:

### The Millions:

Since launching, hundreds of hospitals have tracked over 300 million medications<sup>1</sup> using KitCheck®, with tangible benefits to patient care, compliance, speed and efficiency, and waste reduction.



**96% time saving:** the hours required every day for manually checking inventory have been significantly reduced, allowing pharmacy teams to reallocate resources to core tasks.<sup>2</sup>



**Error reduction:** by automating the medication distribution process, KitCheck® minimizes the risk of medication errors and ensures accurate dosage administration.



**Waste reduction:** accurate and real-time inventory tracking enables hospitals to target and reduce waste, utilizing medications before they expire.



**Compliance assurance:** hospitals can maintain regulatory compliance by ensuring proper storage and documentation of medications, enhancing patient safety and trust.

#### Sources

**1:** <https://bluesight.com/blog/kit-check-hospital-users-surpass-50-million-medications-tracked/>

**2:** <https://bluesight.com/resource/improving-efficiency-and-safety-at-texas-childrens-hospital/>

Quantitative data from hospitals implementing KitCheck®.

# 91.6%

Brigham Women's and Faulkner pharmacy team achieved a **91.6% reduction in the number of expired medications**, resulting in monthly cost **savings of \$20,267.88**.

# 41%

OhioHealth **reduced unused medication waste by 41%** between 2017 and 2019, representing significant cost savings and ongoing improvement in inventory management practices.

# 38.5 hours

CaroMont responded swiftly to a sodium bicarbonate recall, **saving 38.5 hours of labor** by identifying affected crash carts within minutes using KitCheck®.

### Fast forward to the future

What will the next five years bring to the sector? Cloud-based inventory management coupled with Real-Time Location Systems (RTLS) will enable real-time, accurate tracking of medications and assets across locations. Furthermore, the shift towards tagging inventory more upstream – at the manufacturer or distributor level – will reduce time-intensive inventory tasks from the point of care. Enabling hospitals to automate their management of medications can help ensure safer and more efficient patient care. The adoption of Dual Frequency (DF) that combines the benefits of UHF RFID and NFC technology can extend the benefits to the patient by providing more connected and patient-centric care with improved authentication and treatment adherence solutions.

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## Conclusion

As healthcare providers continue to look to digital technologies to optimize inventory management, Bluesight's KitCheck® solution is symbolic of the potential to improve efficiency, patient safety, and compliance. The widespread adoption of KitCheck® across hundreds of hospitals is the result of a strong partnership between Bluesight and Avery Dennison. Our commitment to collaboration is demonstrating the transformative potential of digital identification solutions in healthcare.

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## About Us

### Avery Dennison

Avery Dennison Corporation is a global materials science and digital identification solutions company that provides branding and information labeling solutions, including pressure-sensitive materials, radio-frequency identification (RFID) inlays and tags, and a variety of converted products and solutions. The company designs and manufactures a wide range of labeling and functional materials that enhance branded packaging, carry or display information that connects the physical and the digital, and improve customers' product performance. The company serves an array of industries worldwide, including home and personal care, apparel, e-commerce, logistics, food and grocery, pharmaceuticals and automotive.

[rfid.averydennison.com](http://rfid.averydennison.com)

### Bluesight

Bluesight provides simple medication tracking from purchase to patient administration allowing hospitals to worry less about inventory, compliance, and costs and focus on what matters most: patient care. Over 1600 hospitals leverage Bluesight's medication intelligence products, optimizing operations, inventory, and staff, while also preventing diversion, safety risks, and noncompliance, thus saving time and money.

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