

CLIENT: George Washington University Hospital • MEDIA: End-tab File Folders • SOLUTION: SlimCase

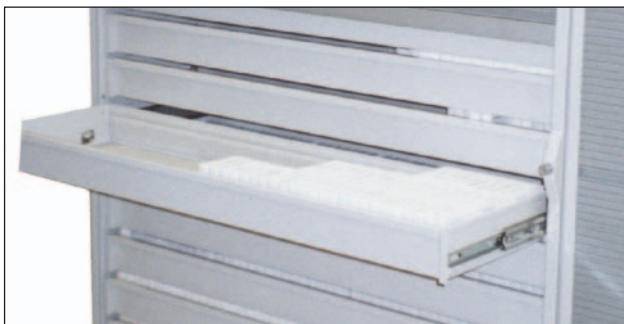
The Challenge

Throughout its history, the George Washington University Hospital has come to symbolize clinical innovation and superior quality care. This century-long tradition of providing excellent care and patient comfort will continue in a newly constructed, state-of-the-art, 400,000 ft², 371-bed hospital and teaching facility. The new hospital is located across the street from the former hospital and just minutes from Washington, D.C. government headquarters and tourist sites.

Nearly 12,000 patients are admitted each year, and each one is entitled to privacy at the hospital and continued confidentiality about all medical information. The hospital needed secure but easily accessible storage for each patient's medical records. Out-patient records, in-patient records, analysis charts, admission folders, physician holding charts, research charts, and various other medical records are kept in end-tab file folders and on CD-ROM in the Health Information Management Department. Space in the new hospital storage area was not adequate for rotary-style filing and mobile shelving was not an option.



SlimCase interiors can be field retrofitted to store new formats.



SlimCase file with optional drawers for CD-ROM storage.



Using two well-placed door-lifts and without bending, Janice Turner easily opens the SlimCase door.

The Solution

After doing an extensive records survey and space analysis, Russ Bassett's SlimCase, a small-footprint lateral file, was chosen because of its space efficiencies. The hospital has a total of 24 SlimCase units.

Twenty-three are configured with six-tiers of slotted end-tab filing shelves that contain 5,221 filing inches. The remaining SlimCase was configured with four adjustable-divider media drawers to store the CD-ROM collection and three additional end-tab folder shelves.

SlimCase is compatible with "HIPAA" security & privacy standards.

The Result

The narrow 14-1/2" deep SlimCase is space-conservative, especially when compared with typical 18" deep lateral files. Because SlimCase laterals are available in 36", 42" and 48" width, the hospital was able to mix sizes and achieve optimum storage without any wasted floor space. Each SlimCase is equipped with a locking tambour door that provides security and medical record privacy. Paulette Smith, the hospital's Director of Health Information "likes the smooth operation of the tambour doors and the lock-ability." SlimCase interiors can be field-retrofitted without tools. As storage methods migrate from end-tab folder format to CD-ROM or other future formats, shelves can be replaced from a wide selection of other style shelves and drawers.