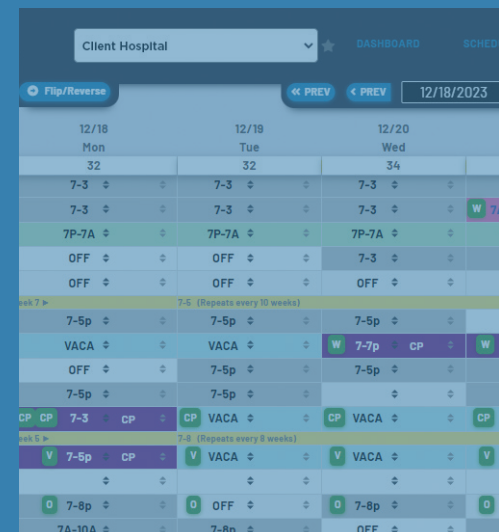# Enhancing Efficiency and Provider Satisfaction with a Low-Cost, Highly Reliable Anesthesiology Scheduling Solution

myStaffSchedule

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INTRODUCTION

Efficient staff scheduling is essential for any healthcare provider, but for non-profit organizations managing unique and flexible roles such as CRNAs (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists), the challenge becomes even greater. An efficient scheduling solution tailored to a healthcare organization's needs can significantly enhance operational efficiency, reduce administrative workload, and improve overall provider satisfaction. This white paper examines the transformative impact of the web-based staff scheduling software, **myStaffSchedule**, on a mid-sized, non-profit health system and its CRNA team.

CLIENT PROFILE

HOSPITAL PROFILE

Not-for-profit healthcare system located in the Mid-Atlantic region serving a growing population of more than one million people with a dedication to physician- and clinician-led, evidence-based care.

LOCATIONS

- Supporting seven locations including one ASC.

ANNUAL PATIENT ENCOUNTERS

- 70,000 – 80,000

CRNA STAFFING MODEL

- Team of 45+ CRNAs.

- An integrated system, unique in allowing CRNAs to provide coverage across any nursing unit as needed.

- Full-time, part-time, and locum CRNAs available for flexible scheduling across various nursing units.

PREVIOUS SCHEDULING SYSTEM

Before my**Staff**Schedule, the hospital managed CRNA schedules manually, using paper-based systems and Excel spreadsheets. These outdated methods were time-intensive, prone to human error, and lacked real-time accessibility, transparency, and flexibility.

CHALLENGES

PRE-IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

1. **Manual Process and Lack of Real-Time Access**
   CRNA scheduling was managed through using Excel and paper, often a year in advance. Any adjustments required direct, manual communication with a central scheduler, leading to delays and high administrative overhead.

2. **Error-Prone System**
   Managing a master schedule by hand left room for errors in shift assignments, time-off requests, and schedule changes. There was limited transparency, and the staff often faced frustration over schedule inaccuracies and missed updates.

3. **Administrative Burden**
   Maintaining and adjusting schedules required a significant time investment, estimated at approximately 25 hours per month for manual updates, shift swaps, and error corrections.

4. **Impact on Staff Satisfaction**
   CRNAs reported dissatisfaction with the lack of control and visibility in their schedules. Time-off requests were delayed, swap requests were difficult to manage, and limited transparency impacted morale.
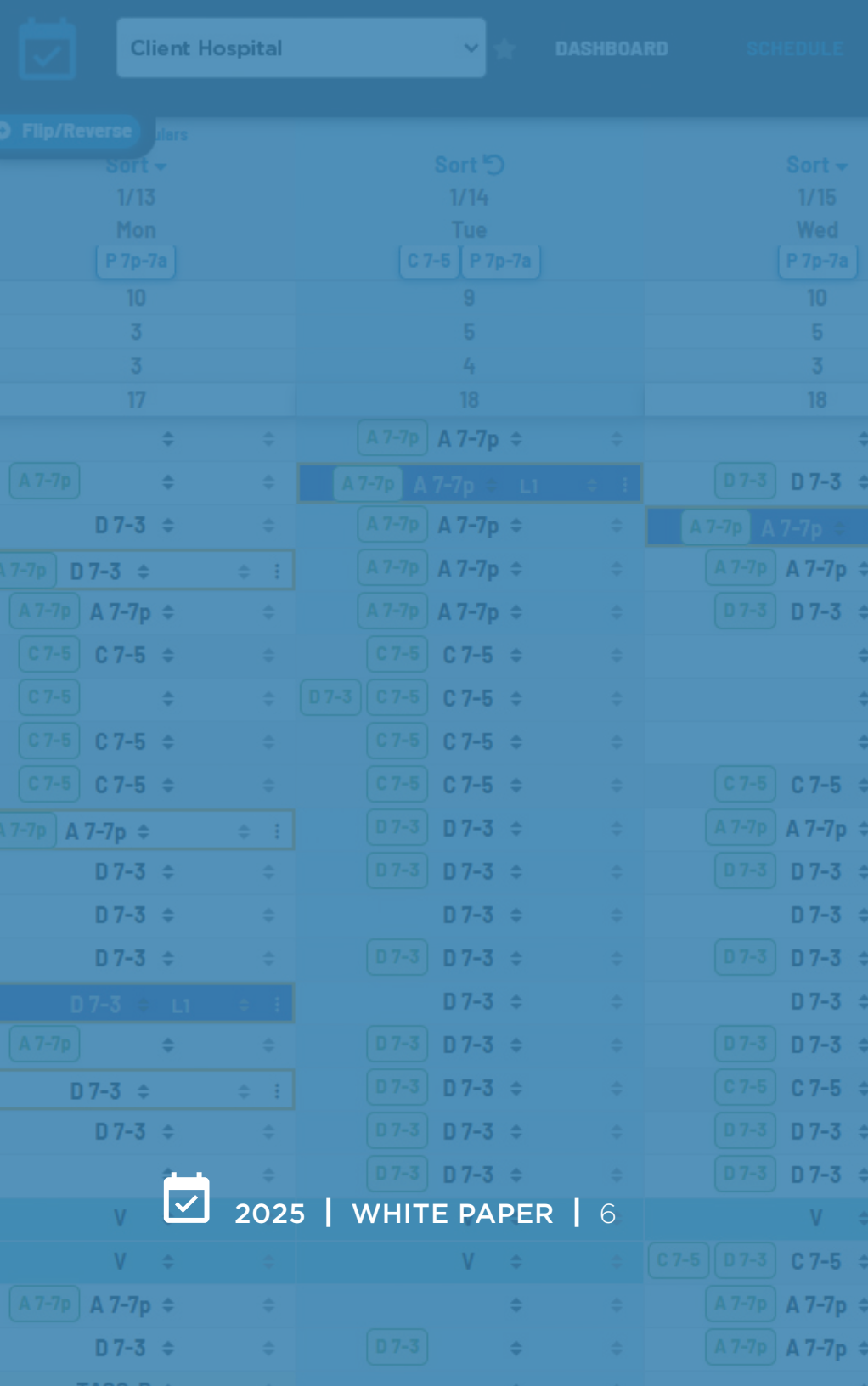
SOLUTIONS

SOLUTION IMPLEMENTATION

The client has been using my**Staff**Schedule (MSS) for three years and provided the following key implementation insights.

1. **Quick and Efficient Installation**
   The system was seamlessly implemented, requiring minimal customization and no integration with the hospital's existing IT infrastructure. The system's intuitive, user-friendly interface meant that staff and administrators adapted quickly, reducing training time and accelerating full adoption.

2. **Responsive Customer Service**
   MSS provided white-glove, US-based customer support throughout the installation and beyond, with an immediate response to any issues or questions. The implementation experience was rated a perfect 10/10 by hospital administrators.

3. **Minimal IT Resources Needed**
   The MSS solution was plug-and-play, eliminating the need for extensive IT oversight. This simplicity allowed the scheduling team to own the platform, with administrative privileges enabling rapid adjustments and updates.

KEY BENEFITS

RESULTS POST-IMPLEMENTATION

1. Significant Time Savings

- **Efficiency Gains:** Since moving to MSS, the department reports a 75% reduction in scheduling times delivering an estimated savings of nearly 25 hours per month.

- **Improved Shift Swaps and Real-Time Updates:** Schedulers can now approve time-off requests, manage shift swaps, and adjust in real-time, freeing them to focus on higher-value tasks.

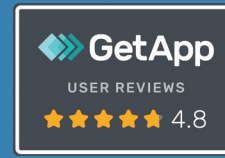#### 2. Enhanced Provider Satisfaction

- **Transparency and Accessibility:** CRNAs can access and manage their schedules directly from their devices, increasing transparency and empowering staff.

- **Streamlined Vacation Management:** Previously a six-week process, annual vacation scheduling now takes three weeks. Automated rounds and reminders further simplify time-off planning, providing significant relief for staff and administration alike.

3. Error Reduction and Real-Time Accuracy

- **Minimizing Human Error:** The MSS system has drastically reduced manual adjustments to the schedule.

- **Easily Tracks Locums Usage:** MSS enables the client to easily and accurately track locum usage to analyze utilization and cost in real time.

RECENT SOFTWARE AWARDS