Increasingly hospitals are striving for more effective bed management through more precisely focused staff roles and strategies such as bed huddles. A bed coordinator not only manages bed allocation but also the use of resources, in particular housekeeping, that affect bed management. Hospitals are also increasingly using technology in bed management – calls on cell phones, text messaging, and widespread computer networks, for example, can all make bed management flow more smoothly.

Perhaps the most significant high-tech method, when deployed and utilized effectively, is an electronic board. It visually displays bed status and patient flow information throughout the hospital so that real-time tracking can occur and is visible to everyone. An electronic tracking board offers the further benefit of a data warehouse that enables data mining and forecasting demand based on ongoing bed management data.