

2nd Quarter 2008: *Please submit suggestions to Tami Horan 779-5736 (horant@ihs.org)*

ISMP (INSTITUTE FOR SAFE MEDICATION PRACTICE):

Cross Contamination with Insulin Pens

- Insulin pens should NOT be shared among patients. (Individual insulin pen is dispensed for each patient and should be used for that patient only.)

Studies reveal potential for cross contamination when pens are shared:

- Biologic material can be aspirated from the skin or subcutaneous tissue, through the needle, and into the insulin cartridge
- Material (squamous cells and epithelial cells) has been found in needles and cartridges
- Blood regurgitation into insulin pen cartridge can occur
- If pen is shared among patients, could result in transmission of contagious diseases such as hepatitis B.
- Shared use of insulin cartridges must be avoided to prevent transmission of viral infections.

Pen manufacturers recommend removing the needle after injection to prevent entry of air into cartridge.



**NO Sharing of Pens
between Patients!**

Patient going home on Insulin Pen?

Please plan ahead!

- ◆ **Pens must be relabeled but cannot be tubed.**
- ◆ **Please allow time for delivery on rounds.**

Peminc Medication Events- Helpful Hints

- Please remember that when you are editing a record in Peminc – you must document your follow up within the **Follow Up** page, **not** in the Narrative Description text box on the Injury Details page.
- If prompted to type something in the Narrative Description box, you can bypass this by typing a period or any symbol in the text box and then move to the Follow Up page.

Look-alike/Sound-alike

Narcotic Pain Relievers

OxyContin & Oxycodone tablets

OxyContin = **Controlled-release** oxycodone
Oxycodone (Roxicodone, OxyIR) =
Immediate release tablet



Hydromorphone & Morphine injection

Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)

- **Not interchangeable with morphine**
- **Fatal errors have occurred when hydromorphone was confused with morphine**
- **7X more potent than morphine injection**

FDA Alerts

Singular

- Possible association between use of Singular and behavior/mood changes, suicidality and suicide.
- Singular is used to treat asthma, symptoms of allergic rhinitis and to prevent exercise-induced asthma
- Patients should not stop taking Singular before talking to their doctor
- Monitor patients for changes in behavior & mood

Tussionex Pennkinetic Extended Release Suspension

- Life-threatening adverse events and death have been reported in patients who have received Tussionex
- There have been reports of health care professionals prescribing Tussionex for patients younger than the approved age of 6 yrs old & more frequently than labeled dosing interval of every 12 hours
- Contraindicated in children less than 6 years old
- Should not be given more frequently than every 12 hours

Spiriva (tiotropium bromide inhalation powder) Capsules

Foradil (formoterol fumarate inhalation powder) Capsules

- Reports of patients swallowing capsules instead of placing capsule in inhalation device
- Capsule should be placed in inhalation device to deliver medicine to the lungs (Spiriva capsule – HandiHaler device; Foradil – Aerolizer device)
- Used to improve breathing in asthma patients and individuals with COPD



Botox, Botox Cosmetic (Botulinum toxin)

- Systemic adverse reactions including respiratory compromise and death
- Most serious cases involved children being treated for cerebral palsy-associated limb spasticity

Pharmacy Newsletter

What's New?

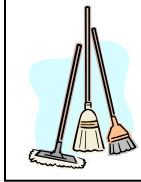


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Spring Cleaning

Your Medicine Cabinet

What to do with expired, unused, or unneeded medication.



- Take unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs out of their original containers and throw them in the trash.
- Mixing prescription drugs with an undesirable substance (such as coffee grounds or kitty litter) and putting in impermeable, non-descript container such as empty can or sealable bag will help prevent diversion
- FDA advises that the following drugs be flushed down the toilet instead of thrown in the trash:
 - Actiq (fentanyl citrate)
 - Daytrana Transdermal Patch (methylphenidate)
 - Duragesic Transdermal Patch (fentanyl)
 - OxyContin (oxycodone)
 - Avinza Capsules (morphine sulfate)
 - Baraclude tablets (entecavir)
 - Zerit for oral solution (stavudine)
 - Meperidine HCl tablets
 - Percocet (oxycodone/acetaminophen)
- Take advantage of community pharmaceutical take-back programs that allow the public to bring unused drugs to a central location for proper disposal. (see next column **Op. Med. Cabinet**)

(Adapted from Office of National Drug Control Policy - Proper Disposal of Prescription Drugs)

New Drugs

Simcor (Simvastatin/Niaspan) – combination product for reducing cholesterol.

New Formulations

Zyrtec (cetirizine) – now available without a prescription. Zyrtec is used for relief of symptoms due to hay fever or other respiratory allergies. Approved for adults and children 2 yrs of age and older.

*Coming Soon.....Pyxis Updates!!!
More Info to Follow*

Operation Medicine Cabinet

(Fall 2008)

9/18/2008 @ Medic in Eldridge
9/19/2008 @ Bettendorf Fire Station
9/20/2008 @ Scott County
Recycling Facility in Davenport
Hours: 9am – 1pm



Will allow area residents to:

- ▶ Safely dispose of old medications
- ▶ Exchange mercury thermometers for digital
- ▶ Pick up and drop off sharps containers
- ▶ Have data-sensitive documents shredded free of charge.

P&T Committee

Formulary Additions:

- ◆ Acetadote (acetylcysteine) IV preparation for use in Acetaminophen overdose
- ◆ Totect (dexrazoxane) – antidote for anthracycline chemotherapy (doxorubicin, epirubicin, daunorubicin, & idarubicin) extravasation
- ◆ Ambisome (Amphotericin B Lipid preparation) Sole formulary agent. Abelcet & Amphotec now non-formulary and removed from stock

Quad City Health Initiative (QCHI) Health Facts Card

- Pocket sized card to be carried in wallet
- Available in discharge packets - all patients should receive on discharge with instructions to fill out information and carry with them
- Health Facts Card provides space for listing of Emergency Contacts, Medical conditions, Immunizations, Allergies, Meds, OTC Meds, Herbs, Doctor and Pharmacy (with phone#)
- www.qchealthinitiative.org

Do Not Tube Medications

(Partial list of medications that should not be tubed)

Albumin	Lantus Insulin
Alteplase (Activase, Cathflo)	Neulasta
Chemotherapy	Propofol
Aranesp	Schedule II Narcotics
Digibind	TPN
Fat emulsions	Vaccines (any)
Neupogen	Insulin pens

Pharmacy Newsletter

Safety Focus



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Medication Event Reporting

Who should you call?

ADR Hotline - dial “DRUG” (3784) if at TMC West or 7th St. (779-3784 if at Terrace Park or clinics)

- ▶ To report an adverse drug reaction – any suspected unwanted effect from a medication. Adverse effects can be expected (incl. in product labeling) or unexpected (not included in labeling)

Near Miss Reporting Line (Ext. 2931)

- ▶ To report an event/error that had the potential to injure a patient, but **DID NOT ACTUALLY OCCUR**.
 - ▶ Confidential line
 - ▶ Available 24 hrs a day

Pharmacist Staff Help Line (779-5737)

- ▶ Non-emergent help line – open to any questions you have for the pharmacist.
- ▶ Please provide e-mail address or how you can be contacted for response.

§ **Remember: ALWAYS use 2 patient identifiers** in daily practice - **room # is not acceptable!**

**Must use: PATIENT'S NAME & DOB /OR/
PATIENT'S NAME & ACCOUNT #
(Acct # for Pharmacy)**

Falls

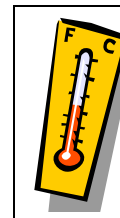
Fall Rates: Goal = 2 per 1000 pt days

January 2.86
February 2.18
March 2.38



Med Fridge Thermometers

- Thermometer should be set between **36° (LO) & 46° (HI)**
- Temp must be documented every day (even if unit is closed)
- **Alarm should always be ON**
- When refrigerator is out of range – “Actions taken” should be noted on form
- Facility Services & Pharmacy should be contacted when Refrigerator is out of range
- Each unit with medication refrigerator will have an in-service with pharmacy staff within the next 2 weeks
- For questions on documentation or operation of the medication thermometers – contact Chris Demuynck at 779-5008



Charting

- ❖ **Medication charting is critical to maintaining an accurate legal patient record.**
- ❖ **Discrepancies in narcotic charting can affect licensure.**

Net Learning Questions (answer the questions in Net Learning and receive Trinity credit):

1. Log into Net Learning
2. Click “Enroll in CBL”
3. Click “Next” to Page forward (look for Pharmacy Newsletter under course title)

- 1.) Insulin Pens should not be shared among patients (True False)
- 2.) Insulin Pens should not be tubed via pneumatic tube system (True False)
- 3.) Operation Medicine Cabinet is:
 - a.) Community event that will allow residents to safely dispose of old medications
 - b.) Will allow residents to pick up and drop off sharps containers
 - c.) Event will take place in Fall of 2008 at several locations around the Quad Cities
 - d.) All of the above are correct
- 4.) Med Fridge Thermometers should be set between 36° and 46° (True False)