SPECIAL ALERT

Look-Alike Medications

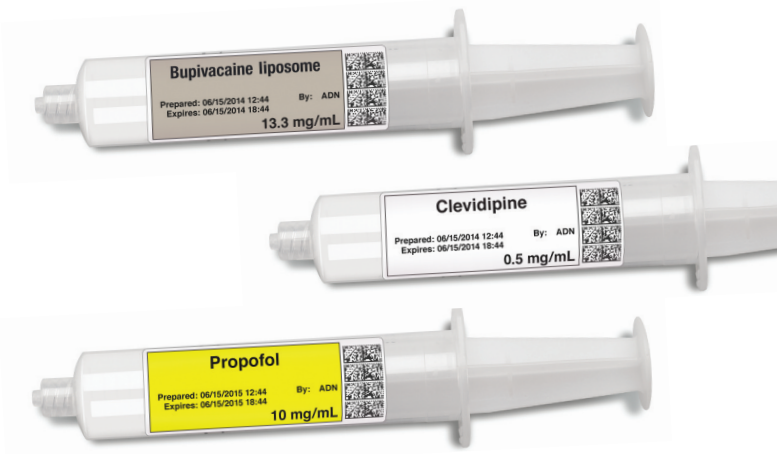
MEDICAL DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS® 2014 WINNER

Prevent potential dangerous look-alike medication errors with Codonics SLS 500i® PCS (Point of Care Station) Medication Management Solution*

A major cause for medication errors involves the selection of similar looking drug vials and prepared, unlabeled containers and syringes. There are many examples, including Propofol and Exparel...both used in the fast-paced OR, ICU and ED environments, which have recently become a subject of concern. **The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) are alerting healthcare professionals about the possible mix-ups of Propofol and Exparel vials and unlabeled syringes, noting that the long held belief that Propofol is the only white milky parenteral medication in the surgical setting is now *false*.**

The APSF, ISMP and the Joint Commission (TJC) have long called for any prepared syringe to be properly labeled if not administered immediately. Drugs identified and prepared with SLS are verified by drug class, drug name, concentration (standard and non-standard), dose, expiration date and time, diluents, and warnings to create an easy-to-read, full-color label. **SLS prevents deadly vial swaps and unlabeled syringes, assuring drug selection by reading the parenteral container's barcode, providing multiple safety checks during preparation, and then printing the preparation-specific, Joint Commission-compliant label that can be affixed to the prepared medication.**

SLS reads the container ID barcode (NDC) of the drug in hand and visually and audibly confirms the drug. SLS then prints an easy-to-read, full color, on demand label that contains all of the elements required by TJC, that can be immediately applied to the syringe. To prevent syringe swaps, the label contains a barcode that can be scanned on the device for verification prior to administration and provides an additional visual and audible confirmation of the drug in hand. That same quick swipe of the syringe past the barcode scanner also presents the clinician with the time remaining until the drug expires, based on site-specific or USP rules. The barcode can also be scanned at an AIMS or EMR for documentation into the patient's record to close the loop.



Exparel, Propofol and Cleviprex are all medications with white milky solutions that pose dangerous risks with inadvertent injections

- Bupivacaine liposome is the generic drug name for Exparel™
- Clevidipine is the generic drug name for Cleviprex™

CODONICS

*As recognized by Frost and Sullivan's 2014 North American Medication Management Solutions Customer Value Leadership Award

FROST & SULLIVAN 2014 BEST PRACTICES AWARD

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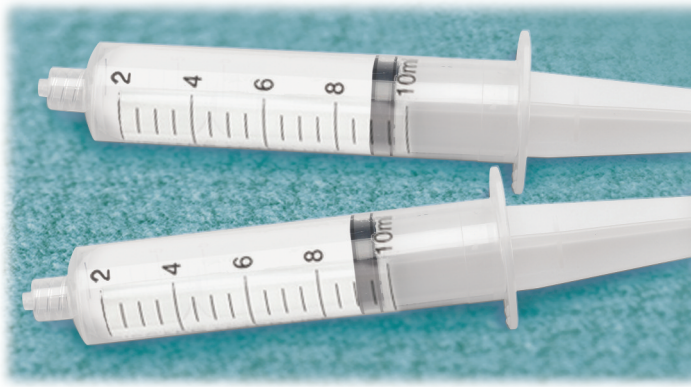
In the OR, anesthetists are met with competing demands, coupled with the challenge to handwrite the required drug information in a legible manner on a very small area.

Use of SLS 500i PCS verifies each and every vial and/or ampoule in hand as a first line of defense to prevent dangerous look-alike medication errors, accurately verifying medications at every step of the preparation process. The award-winning SLS is a first-of-its-kind system to provide on-demand, preparation-specific identification and labeling of medications for improved safety, efficiency, consistency and confidence – anywhere medications are prepared.

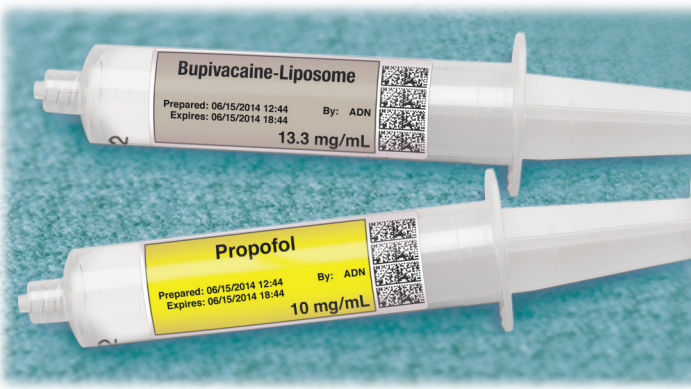
Look-alike Medication Vials

Many vials and ampoules look alike. SLS provides a visual and audible confirmation of the drug to help eliminate vial swaps.



Could this happen in your OR?

Drug solutions can look alike! Multiple medications now have milky white appearances making unlabeled syringes dangerously inadequate.



Not with SLS 500i PCS

SLS PCS prints ready to apply, full-color compliant labels, helping eliminate vial swaps, mislabeling (or illegible labeling) and syringe swaps.

Call Codonics today at 800.444.1198 or visit www.codonics.com for more information.

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