

"STPC"-A New Paradigm

Standardization, Technology, Pharmacy and Culture

APSF has called for a new paradigm, requiring Standardization, Technology, Pharmacy and Culture (STPC) to ensure patient safety in the operating room or anywhere medications are prepared. Codonics Safe Label System embraces the call to action to improve medication safety. SLS addresses the three most common medication errors made during the selection, preparation and administration of injectable and intravenous medications, helping to prevent vial and ampoule swaps, mislabeling, and syringe swaps.



able labels.

and

Technology

- Every anesthetizing location should have a mechanism to identify medications before drawing up or administering them (bar code reader) and a mechanism to provide feedback, decision support, and documentation (automated information system).

SAFE Label System™

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APSF Hosts Medication Safety Conference

Consensus Group Defines Challenges and Opportunities for Improved Practice

by John H. Eckhorn, MD

Standardization

- High alert drugs (such as phenylephrine and epinephrine) should be available in standardized concentrations/dilutions prepared by pharmacy in appropriate for both adult and pediatric patients. Infusions should be delivered by an electronically controlled smart device containing a drug library.
- Ready-to-use syringes and infusions should have standardized fully compliant machine-readable labels.

Technology

- Every anesthetizing location should have a mechanism to identify medications before drawing up or administering them (bar code reader) and a mechanism to provide feedback, decision support, and documentation (automated information system).

Pharmacy/Prefilled/Premixed

- Routine provider-prepared medications should be discontinued whenever possible.
- Clinical pharmacists should be part of the preoperative operating room team.
- Standardized pre-prepared medication kits by case type should be used whenever possible.

Culture

- Establish a "just culture" for reporting errors (including near misses) and discussion of lessons learned.

CONFERENCE REPORT

Persistent reports of medication accidents occurring in the operating room with resultant harm or even a consensus conference of 100 stakeholders from many different backgrounds on January 26, 2010, in

See "Medication Safety" Page 3

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APSF and the ECRI Institute Fire Safety Video

Available for viewing and a complimentary DVD may be requested at www.apsf.org

ECRI Institute has estimated that there are approximately 500 surgical fires each year in the U.S. and many of these fires are on the upper body including the face, frequently resulting in significant facial injuries, and occasionally even death. The majority of these fires were thought to be potentially preventable. The video analyzes the causes of the most common OR fires and is intended for anyone who is involved in the prevention and management of OR fires during surgery. Supplemental content to the video content is offered in the form of a website with supplements for Anesthesia Professionals and for ORT.

How SLS aligns with the new paradigm:

Standardization

- First-of-its-kind to merge all standards* meeting all regulatory requirements into an easy-to-use standardized formulary (with standardized concentrations and diluents)
- Color labels comply with TJC requirements and ASA guidelines

Technology

- Barcode-based identification and verification
- Visual and audible feedback at preparation and administration traceable back to the known source of truth
- Labels include human and machine-readable elements and a **barcode for confirmation** of the syringe prior to administration and/or when integrated with AIMS and EMR

Pharmacy

- Labeling of prepared medications to pharmacy-approved standards including pharmacy prepared syringes
- Brings pharmacy oversight into every anesthesia location by providing on-demand safe, compliant drug labeling based on the pharmacy-approved formulary
- Analytics and integration capability may provide drug reconciliation and improved billing accuracy

Culture

- Eliminates handwriting while improving safety and compliance using barcode technology
- Introduces a modern workflow and method to improve safety, consistency, and accuracy

* The Joint Commission NPSG and Medication Management, Joint Commission International, ASA, APSF, ISO26825/ASTM4774, ISMP and APIC

Go to **APSF.org** and click the 'New Paradigm' video:

www.apsf.org/resources_video2.php

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

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