



SAFETY ISSUE

Volume 4; Issue 3

MISSION: To provide creative culture solutions to improve patient safety



PURPOSE OF THIS NOTIFICATION

- Increase awareness of topic
- Provide actionable items to review and mitigate potential harm.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Paramedics, EMT's, EMS Providers

Nursing, Medical & other Clinical Leaders

Clinical Educators

Patient Safety/Quality Improvement Leaders

Legal/Risk Management

Organization Leaders in:

- EMS
- Hospitals
- LTC
- Home Care

NEXT STEPS

- Share this watch with the target audience
- Promote daily safety briefings
- Continue to share incidents, near misses and unsafe conditions with the Center for Patient Safety

CONTACT

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The Center for Patient Safety is issuing this notification regarding:

SAFETY ALERT: Medication Shortages

Medication shortages:

- Adversely affect drug therapy
- Can cause complications in medical procedures
- Contribute to medication errors
- Create frustration for providers & patients



ACTIONABLE ITEMS TO MITIGATE RISK

- Validate details of shortage & check with suppliers
- Determine stock on hand
- Determine purchase history & true use
- Estimate time until shortage impacts agency & length of shortage
- Identify alternative drug and sources



THE CULTURE CONNECTION

- Communicate with staff details regarding shortage:
 - Specific drug & effective date/length of shortage
 - Alternative drugs/concentrations
 - Temporary guidelines & processes
- Utilize teamwork to identify susceptible patient population
- Review the 5 "R's" of medication administration (Right medication, Right dosage, Right route, Right patient, Right time)
- Implement 2-person medication read-back or cross-check policy



RESOURCES

- [FDA Drug Shortage List](#)
- [ASHP Guidelines On Managing Drug Product Shortages](#)
- [Taking a Strategic and Regional Approach to Critical Medication Shortages](#)
- [Sedgewick County Medication Cross Check Video](#)

MORE INFO

Contact us at 573.636.1014 or view this issue at www.centerforpatientsafety.org/v4.3