



Pump the Brakes: A Focus on Infusion Device Safety

Nicole C. LeFever, PharmD - *Clinical Pharmacy Coordinator*

Christine Parker, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP - *Corporate Director, Clinical Pharmacy*

Steward Health Care



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Learning Objectives



At the end of this session, participants should be able to:

1. Recall The Joint Commission's best practice recommendations for smart pump infusion device safety.
2. Identify strategies and obstacles for successful standardization of medication infusion concentrations at the facility level and across a large national health system.
3. Recognize proactive processes to improve the safety and efficiency of smart infusion device wireless drug library updates within a multi-hospital organization.

Steward Health Care



- Largest private, tax-paying health care network in U.S.
- Founded and led by physicians
- Mandate: to create a fully integrated, scalable model that leads to high-quality, efficient health care
- Passionate focus on high-quality care, innovative services and community commitment
- Strive to reduce barriers to accessing high-quality, comprehensive, compassionate care



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Large Private Health Care System



31
HOSPITALS



25+
URGENT CARE
CENTERS



107
PREFERRED SKILLED
NURSING FACILITIES



4,641
PHYSICIANS
1,531 (SMG)
3,110 (affiliates)

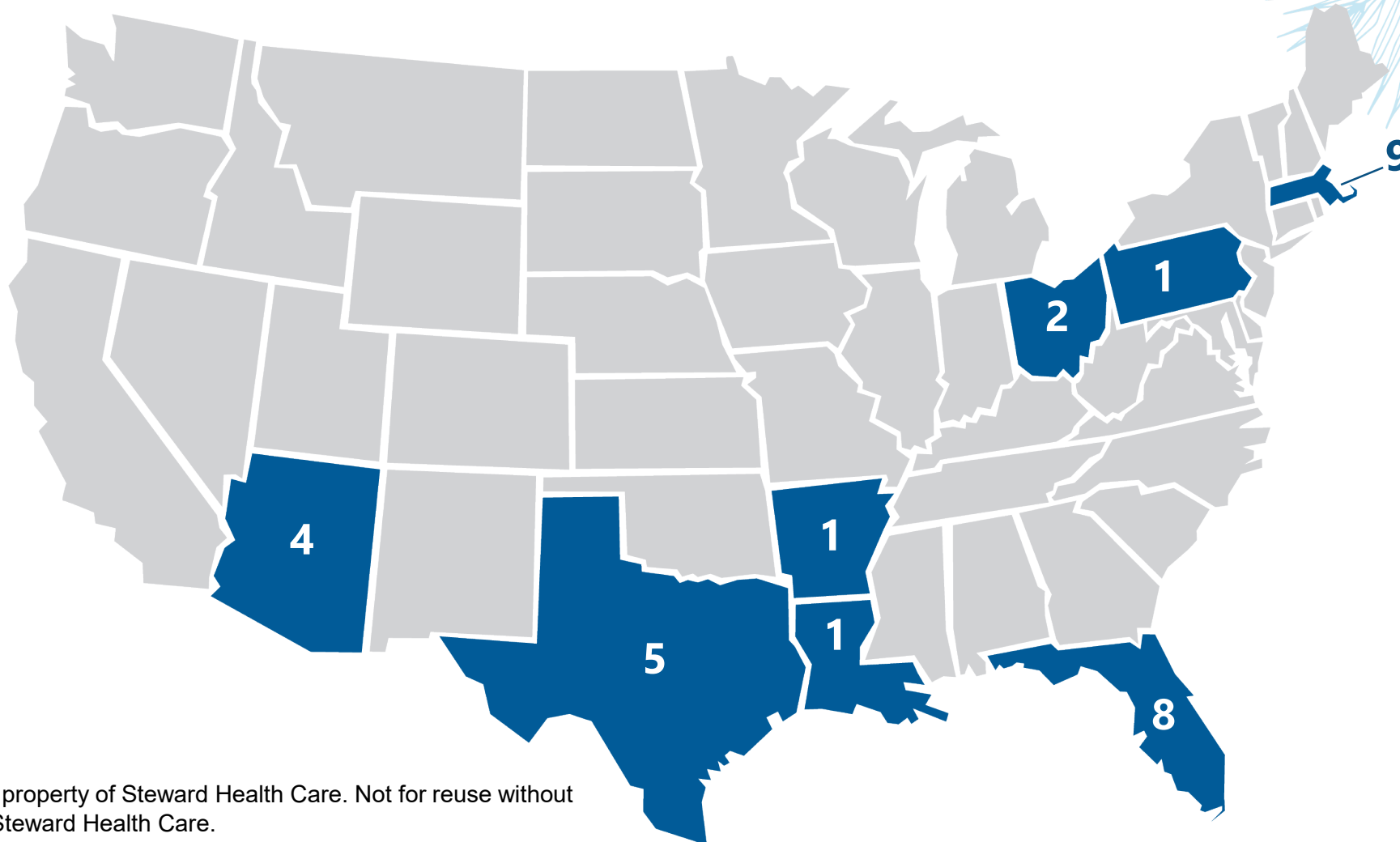


30,000
TEAM
MEMBERS



7,900+
BEDS UNDER
MANAGEMENT

Steward Health Care Hospitals



Source: Image property of Steward Health Care. Not for reuse without permission of Steward Health Care.

Current State of Smart Infusion Devices



Pharmacist-centric management

- Nursing end-users often not included in the management process

Variability in hospitals with and without integration

- Drug library build context differences

Lack of clear guidance for drug library safety elements

- Variances in safety limits

Nursing turnover in a post-COVID era

- End-user experience with lack of consistency across the nation

Source: Alamer F, Alanazi A.T. *Cureus* 2023;15(3): e36007

Infusion Device Management

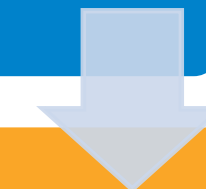
Key Elements



ISMP and TJC recommendations for routine updating of smart pump drug library



Outdated and EHR-misaligned drug libraries can result in serious patient harm



Wireless drug library update delays are significant and widespread due to technology limitations and poor processes

Sources: The Joint Commission (TJC). *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.
Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). *ISMP* 2020;1-37.

Management

TJC Best Practices



Identify

- Identify a team responsible for smart infusion pump management

Define

- Define a process to create, test and maintain a drug library

Hardwire

- Standardize drug library elements
- Ensure uniform updates to pumps

Source: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

Assessment Question #1



TJC SEA 63 Best Practices include ALL of the following except:

- A. Identify a team responsible for smart infusion pump management
- B. Implement infection control standards for pump cleaning
- C. Ensure uniform updates to pumps
- D. Define a process to create, test and maintain a drug library

Answer: Question #1



TJC SEA 63 Best Practices include ALL of the following except:

- A. Identify a team responsible for smart infusion pump management
- B. Implement infection control standards for pump cleaning
- C. Ensure uniform updates to pumps
- D. Define a process to create, test and maintain a drug library

Drug Library

TJC Best Practices



Standardize and
limit drug
concentrations

Establish care
areas and
standardize
nomenclature

Safety limits:
Alerts when pump
is programmed
outside limits

Source: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

Safety

TJC Best Practices



Train and
assess
competency
of all clinical
staff

Make use of
dose error
reduction
software
expected
practice

Monitor
alerts,
overrides,
recalls and
adverse
event reports

Source: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

Infrastructure

TJC Best Practices



EHR-Pump interoperability if possible



Identify and address human and environmental factors



Keep pumps safe from downtime and security threats

Source: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

Identify Infusion Device Committee Members



NURSING



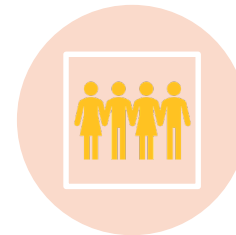
PHARMACY



EDUCATORS



INFORMATICS



BIOMED

Source: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

Nurses Are KEY



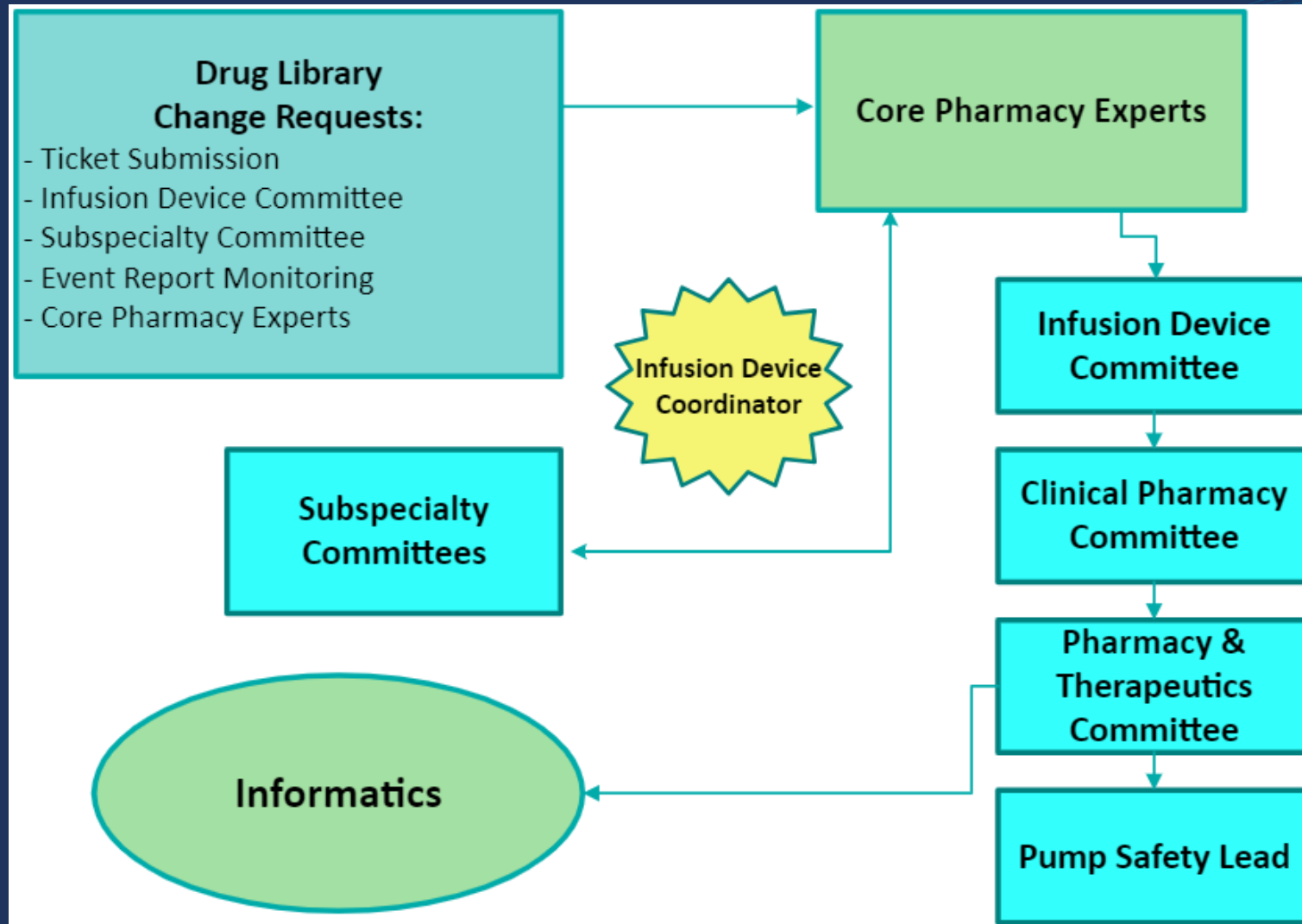
- Primary stakeholders
- End-user experience
- Alternative perspectives
- Engagement essential for safety initiative buy-in



Source: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

Image Source: Getty images. Used with permission of HealthTrust.

Define Drug Library Management Process



Source: Image property of Steward Health Care. Not for reuse without permission of Steward Health Care.

Hardwire

Standardize Drug Library



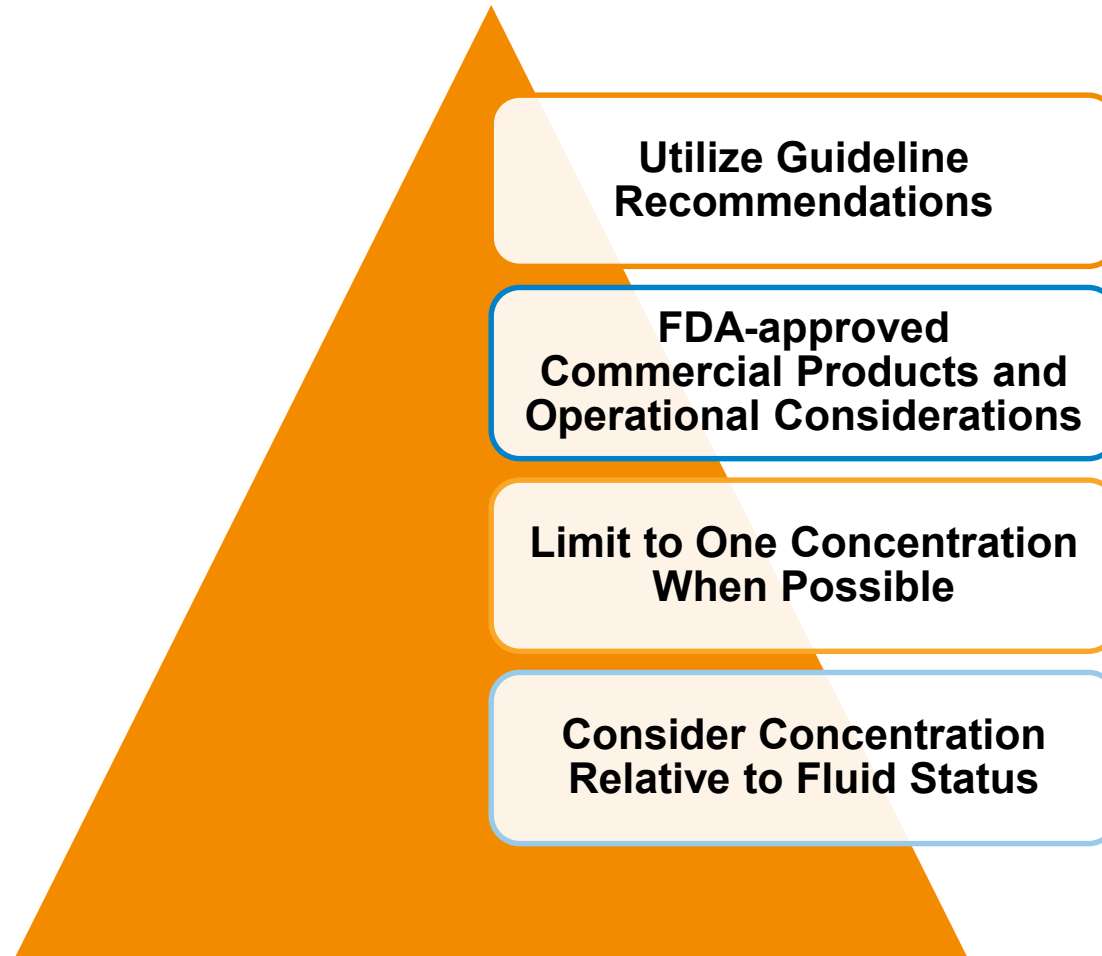
Drug Concentration Standardization

Dosing Unit Standardization

Additional Programming Elements

Source: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

Principles for Infusion Standards



Sources: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. <https://www.ashp.org/Pharmacy-Practice/Standardize-4-Safety-Initiative>.

Limit Continuous Infusion Concentrations



Standardize to a single drug concentration when possible

Identify drugs that may need more than one concentration

Vasopressors and antihypertensives

Source: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

Assessment Question #2



Which of the following strategies has demonstrated to be effective for successful standardization of medication infusion device concentrations?

- A. Limit to a single concentration where possible
- B. Utilization of guideline recommendations
- C. Consideration of commercial availability of products
- D. All of the above

Answer: Question #2



Which of the following strategies has demonstrated to be effective for successful standardization of medication infusion device concentrations?

- A. Limit to a single concentration where possible
- B. Utilization of guideline recommendations
- C. Consideration of commercial availability of products
- D. All of the above

Concentration and Dosing Unit Standardization



- Engage with pharmacy leads
- Assess operational dispensing current state vs. future state
 - Provide/compare worksheets
- Meetings with pharmacy leads
 - Assess progress
 - Address concerns and obstacles
 - Support in the process
- Provide stakeholder communication template

Source: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

Additional Programming Elements



Care Areas

Tailored to
specific patient
populations

Standardize
Nomenclature

Develop a
standardization
guide

Safety Limits
(DERS)

Keystroke error
potential

Source: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

Develop Standardization Rules



Drug Library Safety Standards & Style Guide

Introduction

1) The Drug Library consists of a Master Drug List for drug generic names.

- An “alternate name” can be defined.
- “Clinical Advisories” are added at the Master Drug level.

2) Each individual Drug Entry is then built out beginning with selecting a Master Drug, and then adding data such as drug concentration and infusion rate (for Continuous Infusions) or infusion time (for intermittent drug infusion over time or “DOT”)

As a rule, the INFUSOMAT pump Drug Library is intended to align with the EHR (i.e., Meditech) in terms of how drug names and drug doses are described.

- When the Meditech entry does not match the desired style or other entry, a Meditech edit can be considered – so long as the result is that they are in harmony.
- Some pump style is not EHR dependent (more detail is noted below).

GENERIC DRUG NAME ORGANIZATION

- All medications are listed by generic name using all lowercase unless using tall man letters (see below)
- Medication names listed should match how they appear in the EHR (i.e., Meditech) or the medication label.

Master Drug Rules

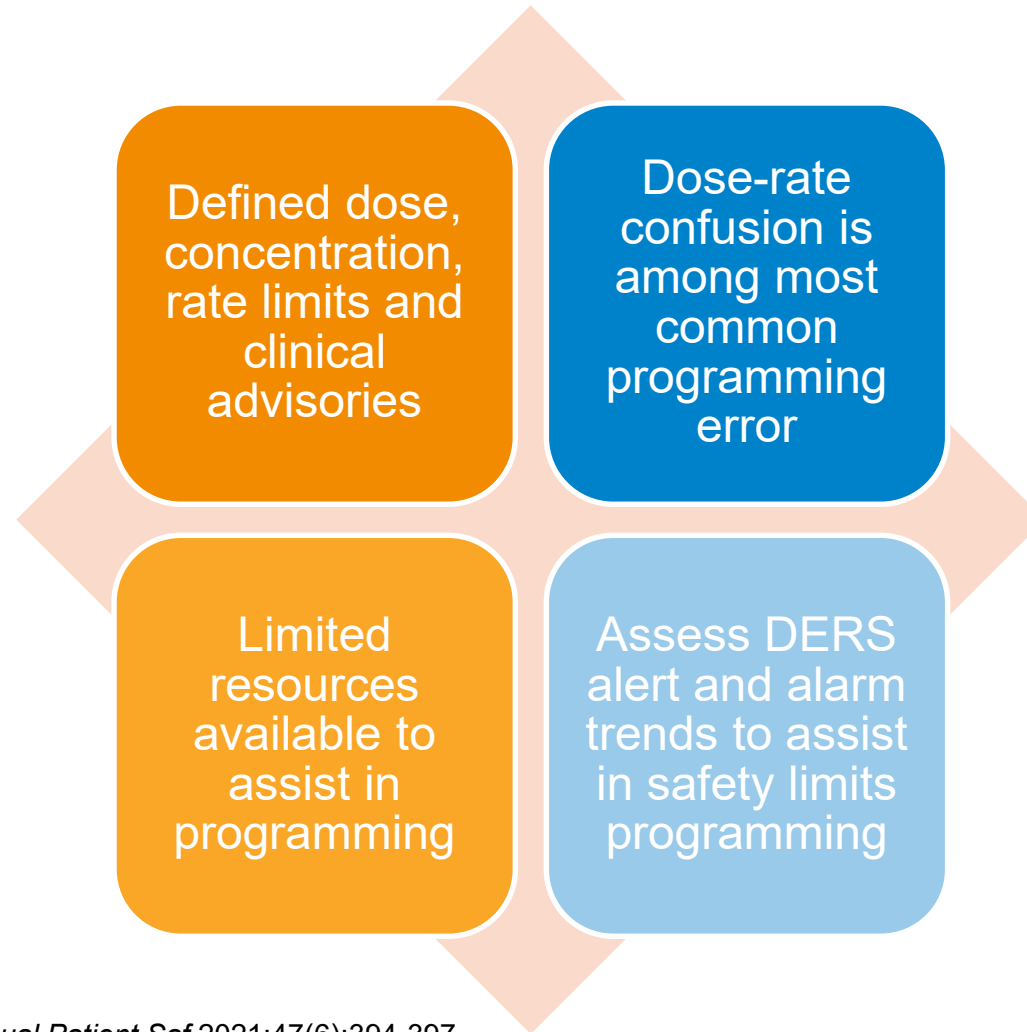
- Do NOT use the same Master Drug Route for Subcategory builds for adults and Peds.
- Anytime a library entry will be copied, a new unique Master Drug should be created FIRST, if the drug name will be different

Source: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

25 | **CE Credit Deadline: 09/30/24**

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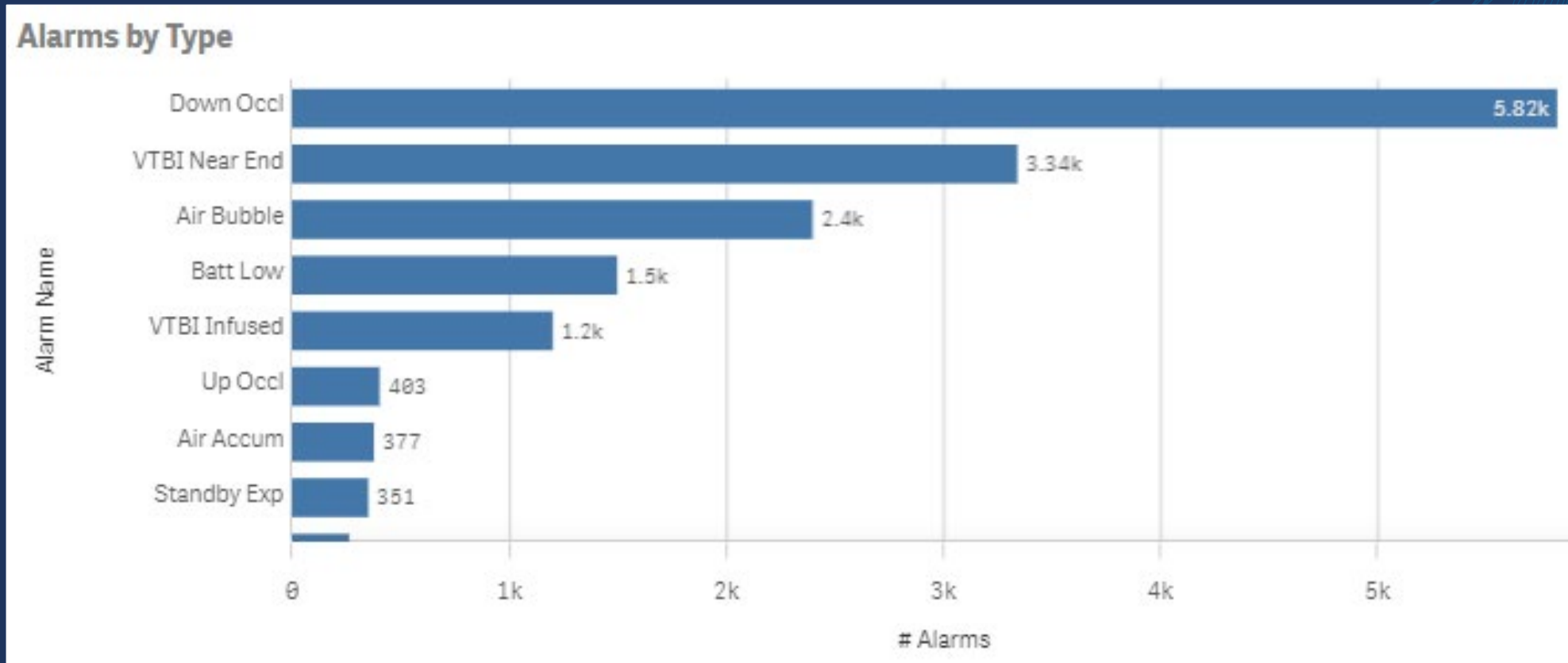
Dose Error Reduction Software Optimization



Sources: The Joint Commission. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.

Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

Analyze Alarm Trends

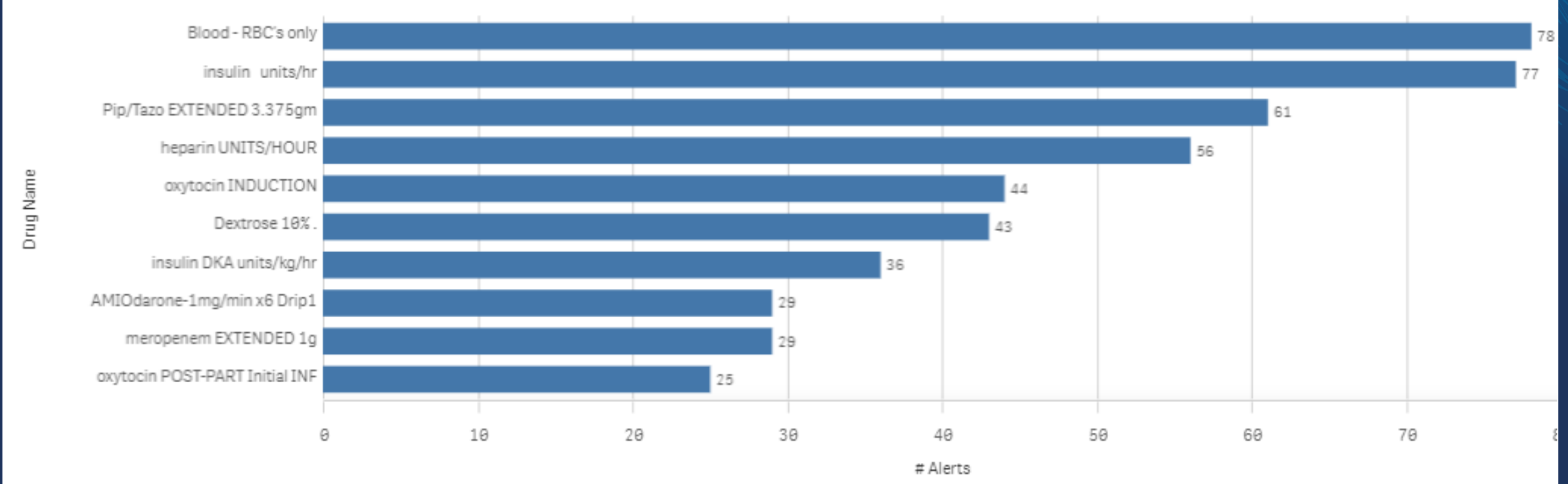


Source: Steward Health Care DoseTrac via QlikSense. Not for reuse without permission of Steward Health Care.

Analyze Alert Trends



Alerts per Medication



Source: Steward Health Care DoseTrac via QlikSense. Not for reuse without permission of Steward Health Care.

Hardwire

Ensure Uniform Updates to Pumps



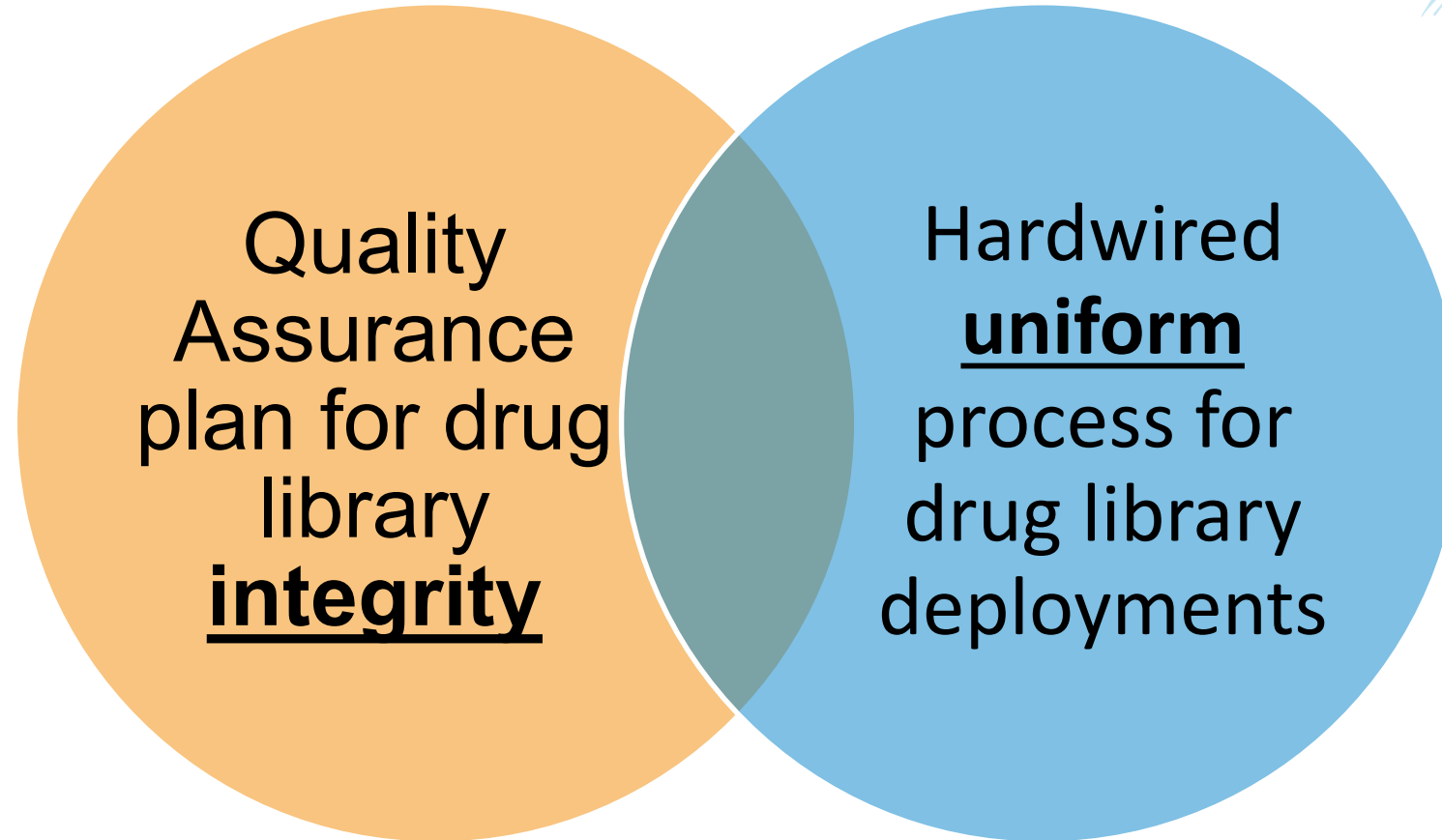
**DRUG
LIBRARY
DEPLOYMENT**



WHOA,

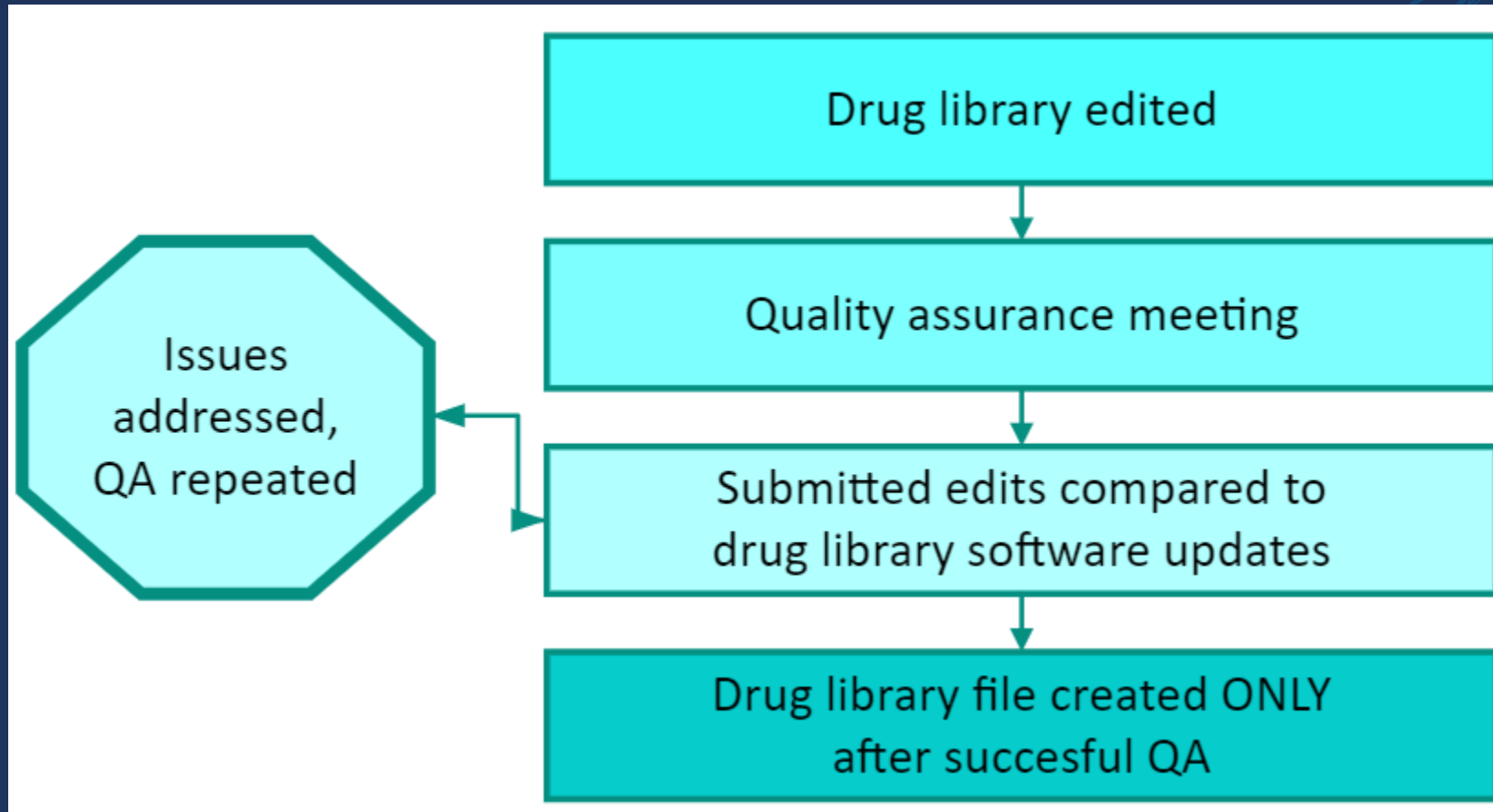
**PUMP THE
BRAKES!!**

Zero-harm Philosophy

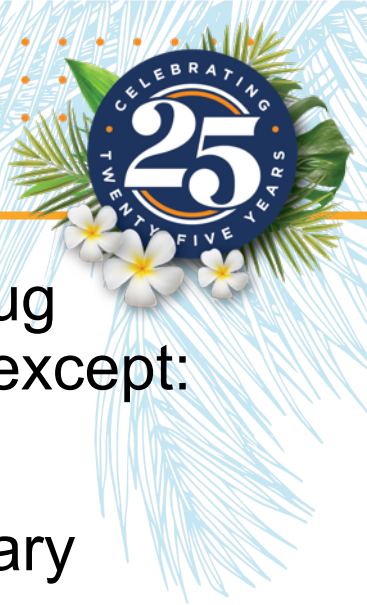


Sources: DeLaurentis P, Hsu KY, Bitan Y. *Am J Health-Syst Pharm* 2018; 75(15):1140-1144.
Hsu KY, DeLaurentis P, Bitan Y, et al. *J Patient Saf* 2019;15(1):e8-e14.

Quality Assurance (QA) Process



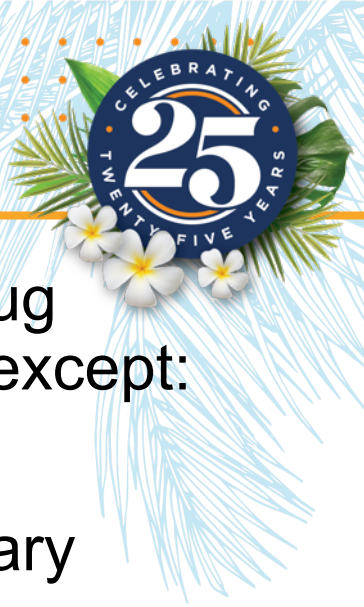
Assessment Question #3



All of the following should be completed prior to drug library deployment to support a zero-harm culture except:

- A. Establish a quality assurance plan for drug library integrity
- B. Develop a process for uniform drug library deployments
- C. Compare submitted edits to the edited drug library software prior to creating the drug library file
- D. Poll pharmacists to assess best time of day for drug library deployment

Answer: Question #3

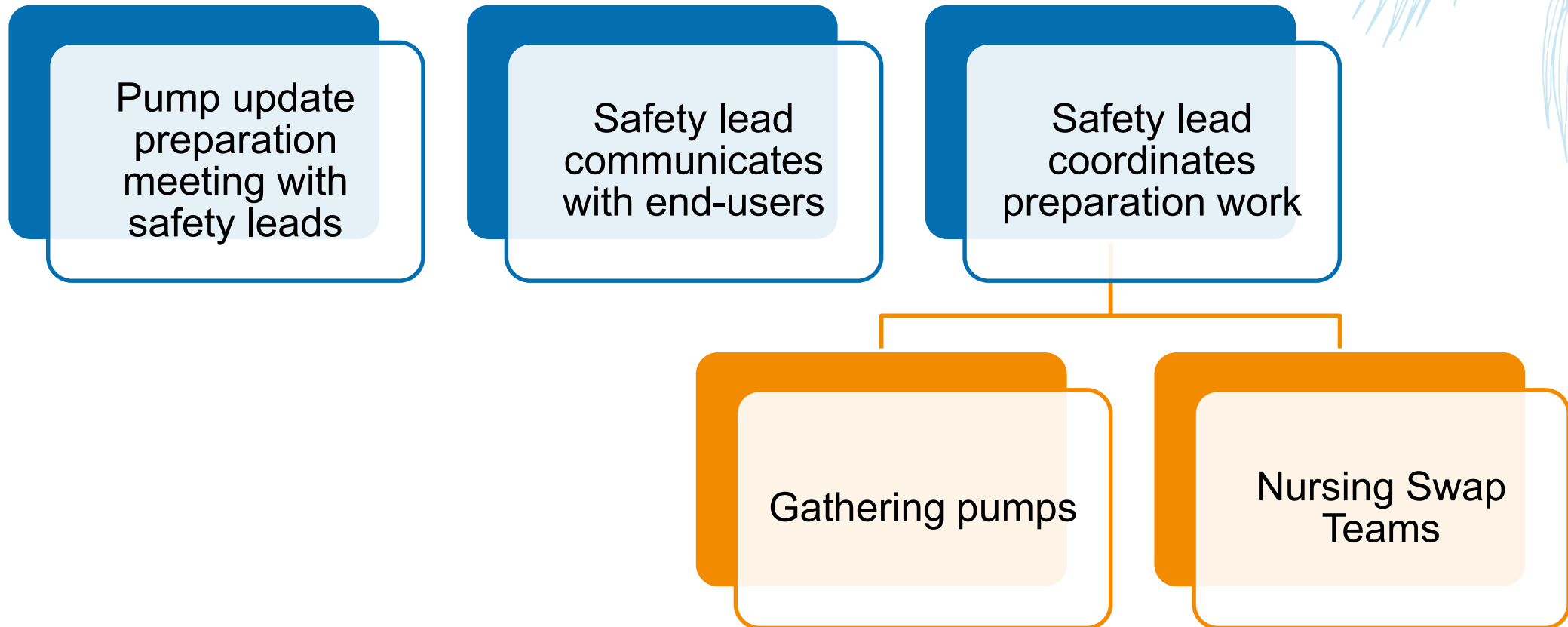


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Drug Library Deployment Planning

1-2 Weeks Prior

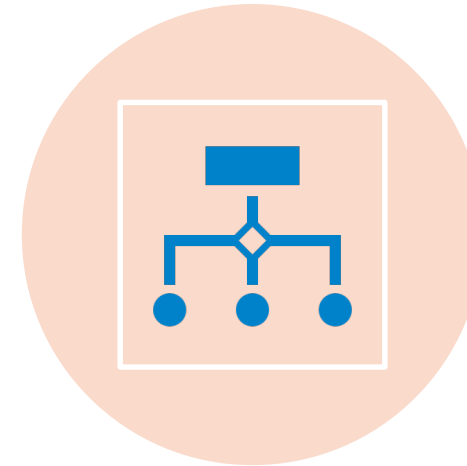


Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Nursing Swap Teams



**Teams of 1–2 nurses
for day of update**



**Swap pumps to ensure all
pumps receive the update**

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Drug Library Deployment Planning

1-3 Days Prior



Reminder from
safety lead to
stakeholders

Continued
coordination of
preparation
work

Confirmation of
Swap Teams

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Drug Library Deployment Planning

Day of Update



Confirmation of deployment time is communicated by Pharmacy Informatics



Drug library is deployed



Deployment success is officially confirmed by Pharmacy Informatics

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Nursing Pump & Swap Activity

Day of Update



Teams travel
from unit to unit



New drug library
pumps swapped
for old pumps



Pumps tagged
as updated

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Pump Update TAT Data Review



Aim to demonstrate improvement in drug library upload success



Three acute care hospitals from 3 U.S. regions and data collected following two separate drug library pushes in July and Oct. 2021



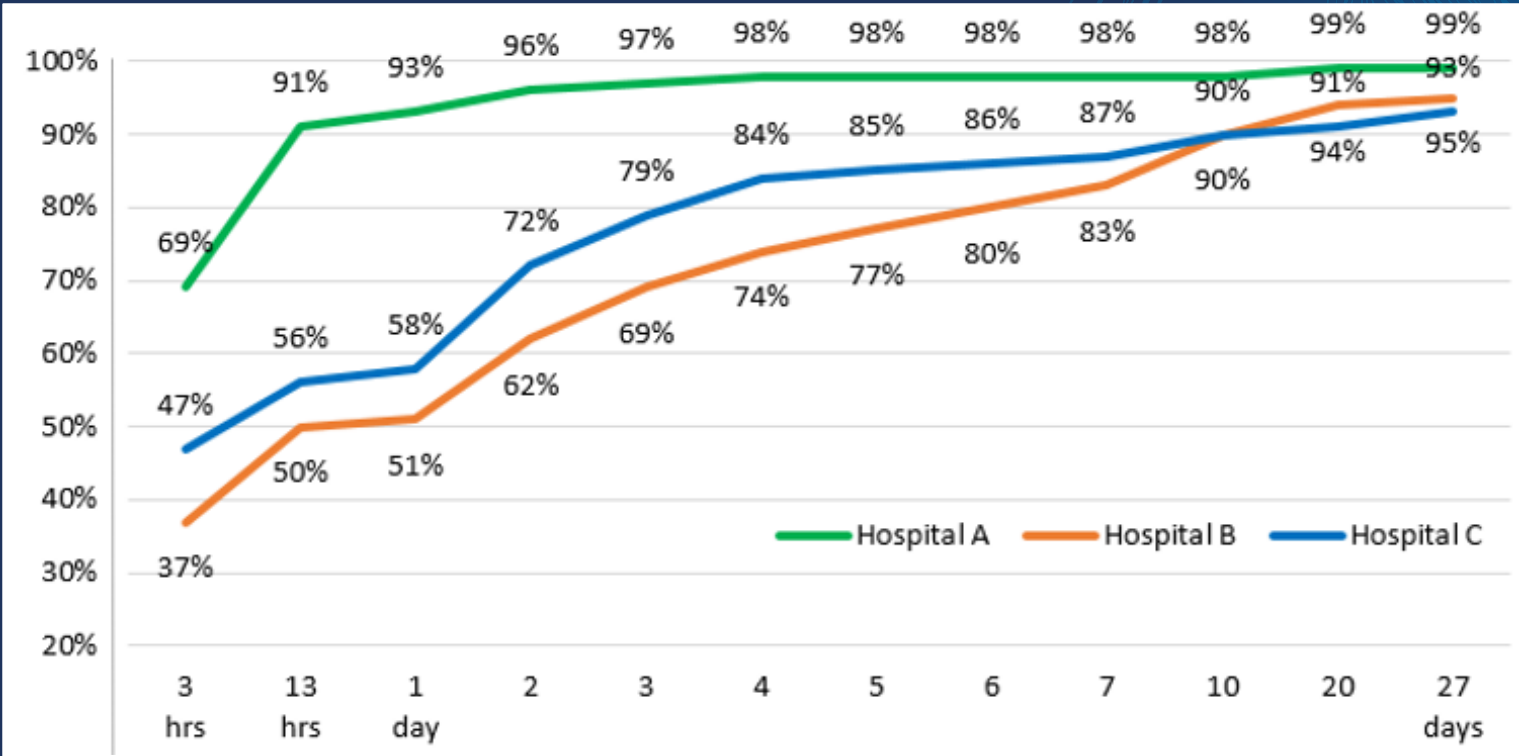
Pre-intervention baseline and post-intervention data analyzed

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

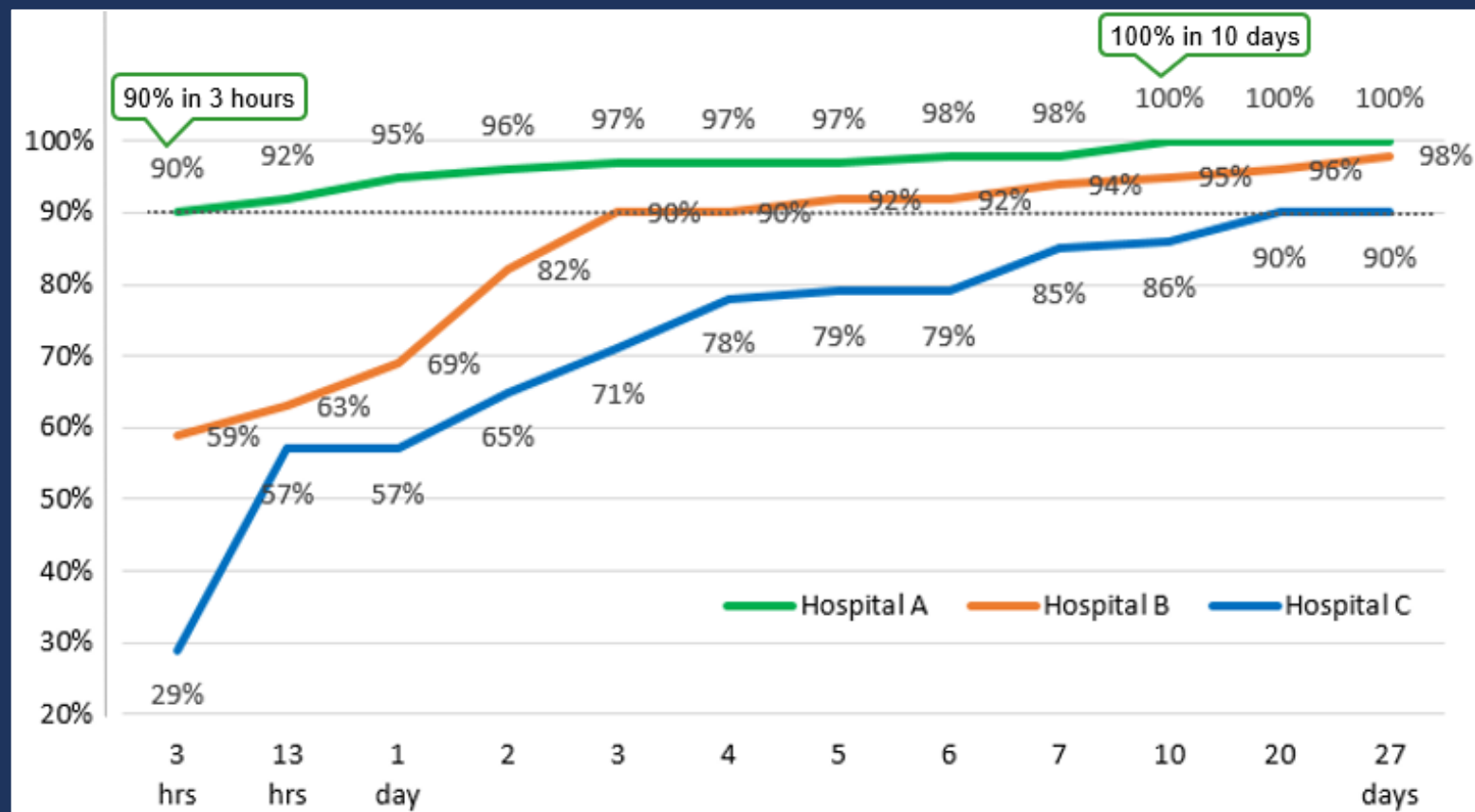


Baseline Pre-intervention

New Library Upload Success
Pump Fleet %



Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.



Results Post-intervention

New Library Upload Success
Pump Fleet %

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Data Review Summary



- Multidisciplinary engagement is vital
- Identify a facility lead to oversee pump safety
 - Nurse is best
- Nursing engagement and buy-in is critical to success
 - Hospital A excelled due to strong engagement of nursing leaders and front-line staff
 - Hospital C struggled with nursing engagement, resulting in a longer time to achieve our 90% goal

Source: LeFever NC, Martin E, Small J, Drelick J, Vitoux R (2022). Improving Smart Pump Drug Library Upload Success Using a Best Practice Approach.

Safety Monitoring Post-Deployment



Monitor progress of drug library update



Report out progress to the team post-deployment



Establish a category in event reporting system for infusion device-related errors



Review details of events with multidisciplinary committee



Incorporate event action plans into future drug library updates

Source: Institute for Safe Medication Practices 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/guidelines/safe-implementation-and-use-smart-pumps>

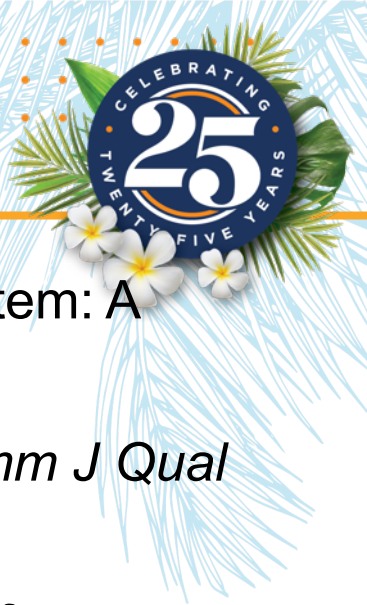


Key Take-home Points



- Infusion device management and safety can be improved by implementing The Joint Commission's best practice recommendations
- Standardization of drug library programming should be a fundamental practice to improve infusion device safety as outlined by ISMP
- A consistent process for drug library deployments can significantly improve safety by minimizing pumps with outdated libraries

References



1. Alamer F, Alanazi A T. The impact of smart pump technology in the healthcare system: A scope review. *Cureus* 2023;15(3): e36007.
2. Sentinel Event Alert 63: Optimizing smart infusion pump safety with DERS. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf* 2021;47(6):394-397.
3. Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). *ISMP Guidelines for Optimizing Safe Implementation and Use of Smart Infusion Pumps*. ISMP 2020. <https://www.ismp.org/node/972>
4. Hsu KY, DeLaurentis P, Bitan Y, et al. Unintended patient safety risks due to wireless smart infusion pump library update delays. *J Patient Saf* 2019;15(1):e8-e14.
5. DeLaurentis P, Hsu KY, Bitan Y. Prevalence of wireless smart-pump drug library update delays. *Am J Health-Syst Pharm* 2018;75(15):1140-1144.



Thank you...

Nicole LeFever, PharmD

Nicole.Lefever@steward.org

Christine Parker, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP

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