

Hospira Pharmacy Consultants Can Help You Realize the Benefits of the Hospira MedNet™ Software in your Institution:

Benefits of Our Consulting Services and Testimonials From a Few of the Leading Institutions Who Have Used Their Services

INTRODUCTION:

Increasing emphasis has been placed upon the avoidance of medication errors. Driving this are the potentially dangerous errors that involve potent, high risk medications delivered by IV infusion pumps.

HIGH-ALERT IV MEDICATIONS*

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|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Amiodarone | • Nesiritide |
| • Heparin | • Nitroprusside |
| • Insulin | • Potassium Chloride concentrate |
| • Lidocaine | • Potassium Phosphate |
| • Magnesium Sulfate | • Sodium Chloride, hypertonic |

In response to this demand, medication safety systems utilizing "intelligent" infusion pumps have evolved with the principal goal to aid in reducing medication errors. These sophisticated devices, operating via customizable unit-specific drug library/rule set software can respond to incorrectly programmed drug dosages and infusion rates via audible and visual alerts, thus reducing the chance of undesired patient outcomes. The Hospira MedNet™ Software System allows auto-programming of the infusion device from the Pharmacy Hospital Information System through the server either via an Ethernet connection or in a Wireless environment. This automated solution helps reduce the time spent programming and frees up nursing time for other patient care activities. With the shortage of nurses being an ever-increasing concern, this extra time can have a great impact on institutional productivity. Importantly, the complexity of these devices has increased due to the need to "customize" drug libraries/rule sets to each unit making multiple installations within an institutional system even more complex. Institution-wide implementation of these safety systems can be a real challenge.

THE BENEFITS OF USING HOSPIRA'S PHARMACY CONSULTANTS WHEN IMPLEMENTING YOUR HOSPIRA MEDNET™ SOFTWARE:

Institutions might rightly ask about the potential benefits of our Pharmacy Consultants when assessing their potential value against the costs incurred.

When you work with one of our Pharmacy Consultants, you are working with one of a cadre of highly-skilled pharmacists with many years of clinical and management experience. You can take advantage of their experience in helping numerous institutions implement IV safety software systems. Their clinical experience gained over many years can assist you in:

- Knowing what to do
- Knowing how to do it
- Knowing what not to do

Pharmacy Consultants add value to the implementation process by helping to organize many facets of system setup, including facilitating broad input (e.g., from Administration, Nursing, Pharmacy, P & T Committee) and gaining "buy-in" from Nursing (through demonstration of the joint benefits of improving patient safety while saving nursing time). This facilitates a collective decision making process within the institution. They work closely with both Pharmacy and Nursing to enable cooperative development of drug libraries and rule sets. Once development has taken place, they can review drug libraries with nursing staff to maximize ease of use and hence utilization of and compliance with safety software. Use of Pharmacy Consultants can reduce the risk of errors made in populating the drug library data fields, which can be costly, resulting in time delays and additional labor needed to correct them. Our consultants help to "close the loop" in the process and ensure that your drug libraries are tailored to your hospital's policies and procedures.

This article is underwritten by Hospira. Some parts of this article are provided by clinical professionals, and reflect their personal experience and opinions. The information contained in this article may not be typical of all institutions.

Once your system is "on-line", our Pharmacy Consultants continue to provide support. They are there to assist you post-implementation by responding to questions, performing a Performance Enhancement (CQI) assessment 8-12 weeks after the system has "gone live", and providing additional library data as new drugs and dosing parameters arise. The initial Performance Enhancement assessment, using event information from the infusion devices, can be used to "mature" the drug libraries and rule sets. In addition, our Pharmacy Consultants can demonstrate ways to use the data on a long-term basis to fulfill institutional CQI, Joint Commission and governing body mandates. The real value of Hospira MedNet™ Software is fully realized when data are regularly reviewed, adjustments are made if needed and drug delivery is made even safer.

TESTIMONIALS FROM INDIVIDUALS WORKING WITH OUR PHARMACY CONSULTANTS. WHAT DO THEY THINK ABOUT THEM?

"The Pharmacy Consultant that worked with me did an exceptional job. His understanding of the software and his prior experiences with the implementation process made the task significantly easier than what it would have been had his services not been available to us. His clinical background as a pharmacist was integral in helping us understand the potential impact of the software and facilitating a smooth transition to the Hospira MedNet™ Software. In addition, he assisted in interfacing with the nurses and administrators to review several reports in an effort to improve compliance with the safety software."

– Seth Brownlee, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist
Critical Care
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital
Park Ridge, IL

"The Pharmacy Consultant was great in answering questions. He provided excellent explanations during the initial setup of the Hospira MedNet™ Software. He also provided hints on the best drug library setup and reviewed the libraries that we prepared, providing good feedback. He was also instrumental in setting up the initial audit, working with our Biomedical people."

– Uma Hingorami, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacy Manager
Exempla Lutheran Medical Center
Wheat Ridge, CO

"It would have been difficult for me to build the drug libraries without the assistance of my Pharmacy Consultant. He's been a great help to me! He thoroughly explained the entire process to me and shared some sample drug libraries from other institutions to facilitate the process."

– Lor Siv Lee, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist
Erlanger Health System
Chattanooga, TN

"I have been impressed with our Pharmacy Consultant's responsiveness to customer input. Being involved in studies with the Hospira MedNet™ Software, we provided input on ways to improve the product. That responsiveness to the customer, as well as a commitment to patient safety, has been evident in all of my interactions with our Consultant."

– Stephen Eckel, PharmD
Assistant Director Pharmacy
University of North Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC

"The Pharmacy Consultant was an excellent resource for setting up the rule sets to keep nuisance alerts at a minimum. Training by the Consultant was very thorough."

– William Tota, B.S.Pharm
Director of Pharmacy
Women's Christian Association Hospital
Jamestown, NY

"Some of the most useful items provided by the Pharmacy Consultant were examples of drug libraries shared by other institutions, these being the best examples that he had assessed to this point in time. He also made himself available in a timely fashion to address questions about the drug libraries and CCA setup by email or phone. He was always very timely and provided concise answers."

– Douglas Geer, PharmD, BCPS
Associate Director of Pharmacy
Lakeland Regional Medical Center
Lakeland, FL

*ISMP's list of high-alert medications. ISMP Medication Safety Alert. December 18, 2003;8(25):3
For more information on Advancing Wellness, contact your Hospira representative at **1-877-946-7747** or visit **www.Hospira.com**

