



The Global Language of Business

Identification on the primary packaging level – for patient safety

Stream I – November 5th, 15.30-17.00



**Identification on the primary packaging
level – for patient safety**
Sébastien Langlois-Berthelot



About Roche

A pioneer in Healthcare

- Founded in 1896 by Fritz Hoffmann-La Roche in Basel, Switzerland
- 1897 onwards Roche starts to expand worldwide
- 1968 Roche enters Diagnostics Market



TODAY – ROCHE CREATES INNOVATIVE MEDICINES AND DIAGNOSTIC TEST THAT HELP MILLIONS OF PATIENTS GLOBALLY

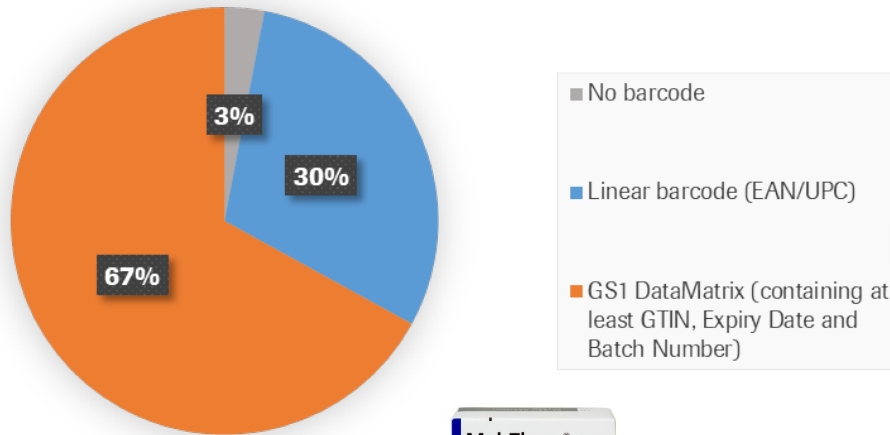
- Largest Biotech Company
- Frontrunner in Personalized Healthcare
- Global Leader in Cancer Treatments



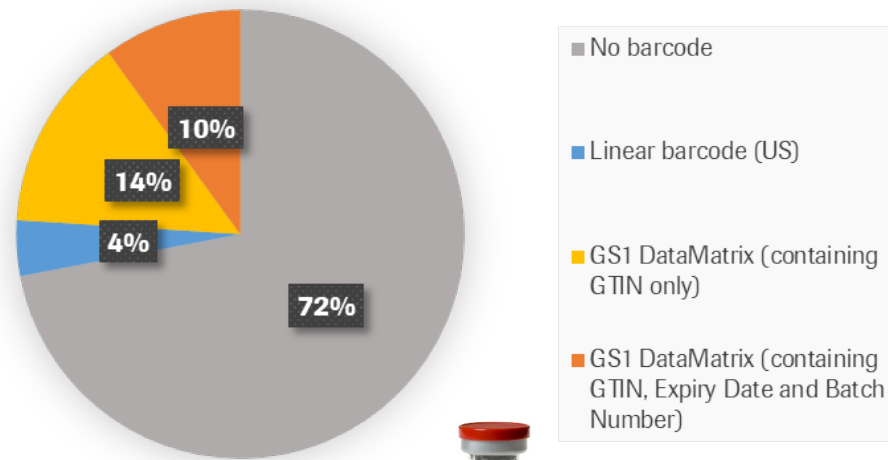
Barcode Implementation on Roche Pharmaceutical Products

Secondary vs. Primary Packaging

Barcodes on Secondary Packaging



Barcodes on Primary Packaging



Roche's Journey to Single Unit Barcodes

First Attempts to Meet Hospitals Needs (2011-2016)

GS1 DataMatrix with **GTIN only**



AMGROS Requirement in Denmark
(except for blisters)



Voluntary implementation for **all injectables in Switzerland**



Voluntary implementation for **infusion solution vials for all EU countries**
(centrally registered products)



Roche's Journey to Single Unit Barcodes

Moving to the next level (since 2017)

- Voluntary implementation of single unit coding (**GTIN + Expiry Date + Batch Number**) for vials for selected products and markets



- **Exploring technical possibilities** to implement on other types of containers (syringes, blisters)
- **Full implementation will take time!**

GS1 Position Paper on the identification of the primary package level of drugs (2017)

Endorsed by  



The Global Language of Business

Position paper on the identification of the primary package level of drugs

This position paper provides good practice recommendations that enable enhanced medication administration processes in care settings such as in hospitals, nursing homes, or at patient's home for chronic diseases. It is adopted by stakeholder organisations that recognise how important it is to support efforts for enhanced safety in the medication process by sharing a joint vision to make this a reality.

Positioning the problem

Medication errors are recognised as an important failure point in care processes. Studies have been conducted to measure such errors and their impact on patients, as well as to measure the benefits of processes that are supported by electronic means (e.g. prescription, dispensation, administration). It is recognised that medication administration at the point of care is significantly more accurate if it is supported by scanning a medicinal product's barcode, matching this with the patient's identification, the physician's computerised order entry and other process factors such as time and route of administration. Identification of primary packages such as vials, pre-filled syringes or solid forms in blister cavity is an important prerequisite for successful point of care verification and registration in electronic health records. Several stakeholders¹ or regulators² already require manufacturers to identify primary packages with barcodes. Hospital implementation can be observed in various places³, but their number is limited since a critical mass of source barcoded primary packages has not been reached in many regions. As healthcare providers see this critical importance, many hospitals today are re-labelling all medications to enable scanning at the point of care. This is a time and cost intensive process that ideally should not take place at the hospital, but at the source of manufacturing, where the right equipment, control and expertise exist.

Purpose of this position paper

By supporting this position paper, the supporting organisations noted wish to stress the importance of enabling safer processes at the point of care. This can be done with appropriate identification of primary packages, thus avoiding errors due to "sound-alike" or "look-alike" medicinal product packages.

¹ E.g. Amgros, in Denmark

² E.g. US FDA

³ E.g. Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal, Brazil, USA, Spain, Switzerland, Argentina, Singapore

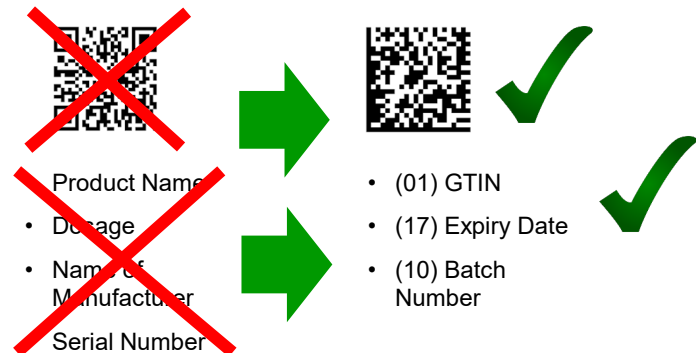
Primary Packaging for Pharmaceuticals is often small

Space for barcode is limited: let's make the best use of it!



Key Recommendations for a successful implementation

- ✓ Leverage Global Standards: **DataMatrix** instead of QR code!
- ✓ Leverage **Global Trade Item Number (GTIN)** as globally unique product identification key to point to further product data in databases!



Take Home Messages

- Advocate for the use of **GS1 standards** and refer to **ISO 16791**, which mentions primary pack identification
- Make use of the **GS1 Position Paper on the Identification of the Primary Package Level of Drugs**, which has been endorsed by EFPIA (European Association of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers) and EAHP (European Association of Hospital Pharmacists) as a basis for requirements
- Need to **engage with health authorities** to increase awareness on the importance of point of care scanning, and help us solving the dilemma between barcode, text and font size on labels and blisters
- More and more leading hospitals worldwide introduce barcode requirements for **tender orders**. This is a strong incentive for manufacturers, provided **requirements are consistent and harmonized**

*Doing now what patients
need next*



shpa Specialty
Practice

Identification on the primary packaging
level – for patient safety

Maryanne Molenaar

Closed Loop Electronic Medication Management

The use of technology in the medication management process, from ordering through to administration.

Aims to minimise manual selection, inputs and transcription, to reduce human effort and some risks of human error.

Why is CLEMM important?

Closed Loop Electronic Medication Management

How we are achieving CLEMM in Australia

- Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, VIC
 - In-house barcodes
- Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, QLD
 - GTINs
- Alfred Health, Melbourne, VIC
 - GTINs
- St Stephen's Uniting Care, Hervey Bay, QLD
 - Unit Dose Packaging

Closing the loop of medication management in hospitals to improve patient safety with barcoding technology on unit dose packaging

POSITION STATEMENT

Introduction

The medication safety benefits for patients of hospitals using electronic medication management systems are well documented as is also that most of these benefits are in the reduced number of errors of administration if closed loop medication management is incorporated into the electronic medication management system. To this end, a small number of Australian hospitals have endeavoured to implement closed

loop medication management by adding barcodes to the unit dose of the medication to be administered; however, this is not sustainable for most Australian hospitals. This position statement addresses the issues faced by Australian hospitals in the absence of a standard for barcoding medications at the unit dose level and makes recommendations for such a standard.

Further Information

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[https://www.shpa.org.au/sites/default/files/uploaded-content/website-content/Fact-sheets-position-statements/position statement -
unit dose packaging.pdf](https://www.shpa.org.au/sites/default/files/uploaded-content/website-content/Fact-sheets-position-statements/position_statement_-_unit_dose_packaging.pdf)

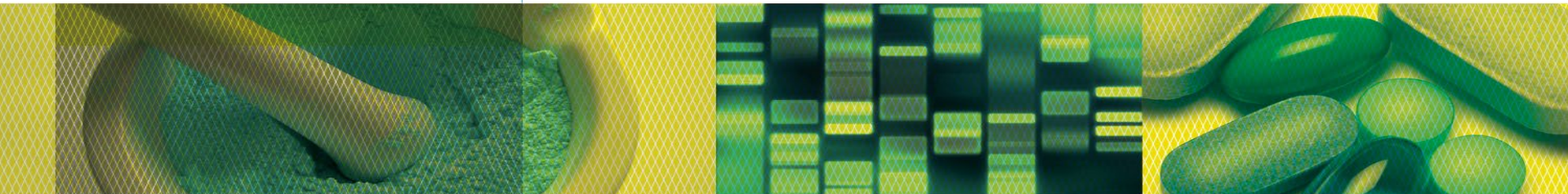


International
Pharmaceutical
Federation

Patient safety in the hospital

Robert J. Moss, hospital pharmacist, FFIP

President FIP Hospital Pharmacy Section
36th Global GS1 Healthcare Conference , November 5th, 2019



**ADVANCING
PHARMACY
WORLDWIDE**



Patient journey



Healthcare



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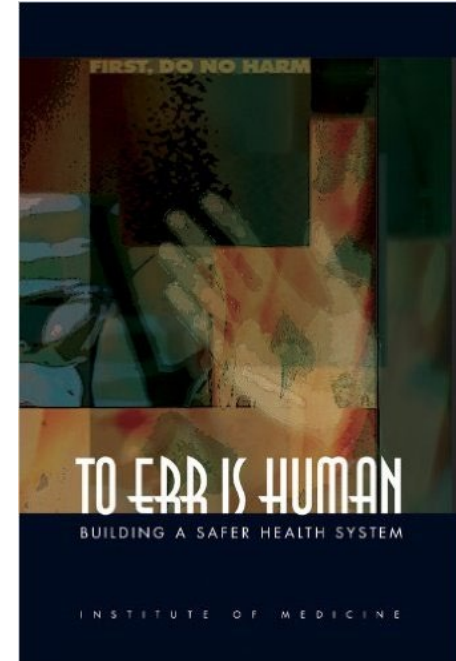


μη βλάπτειν

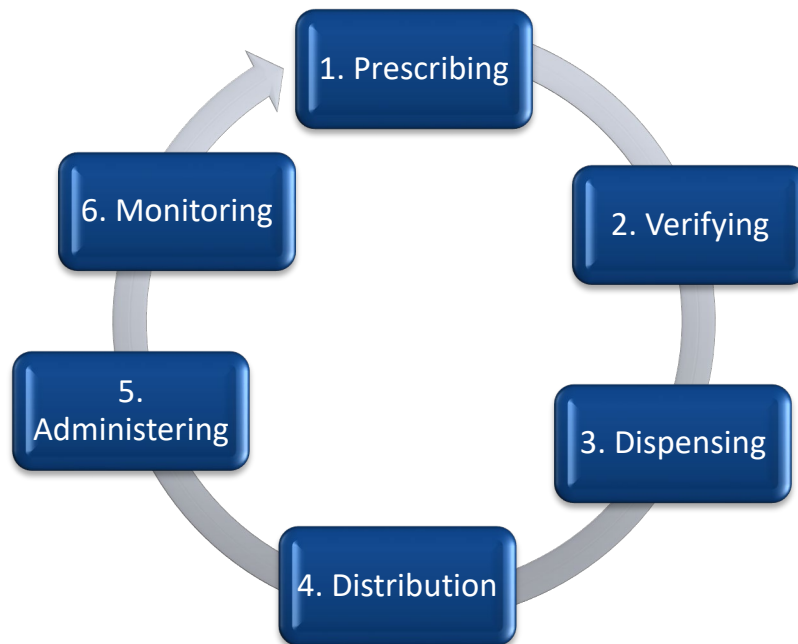
Primum non nocere

First do no harm

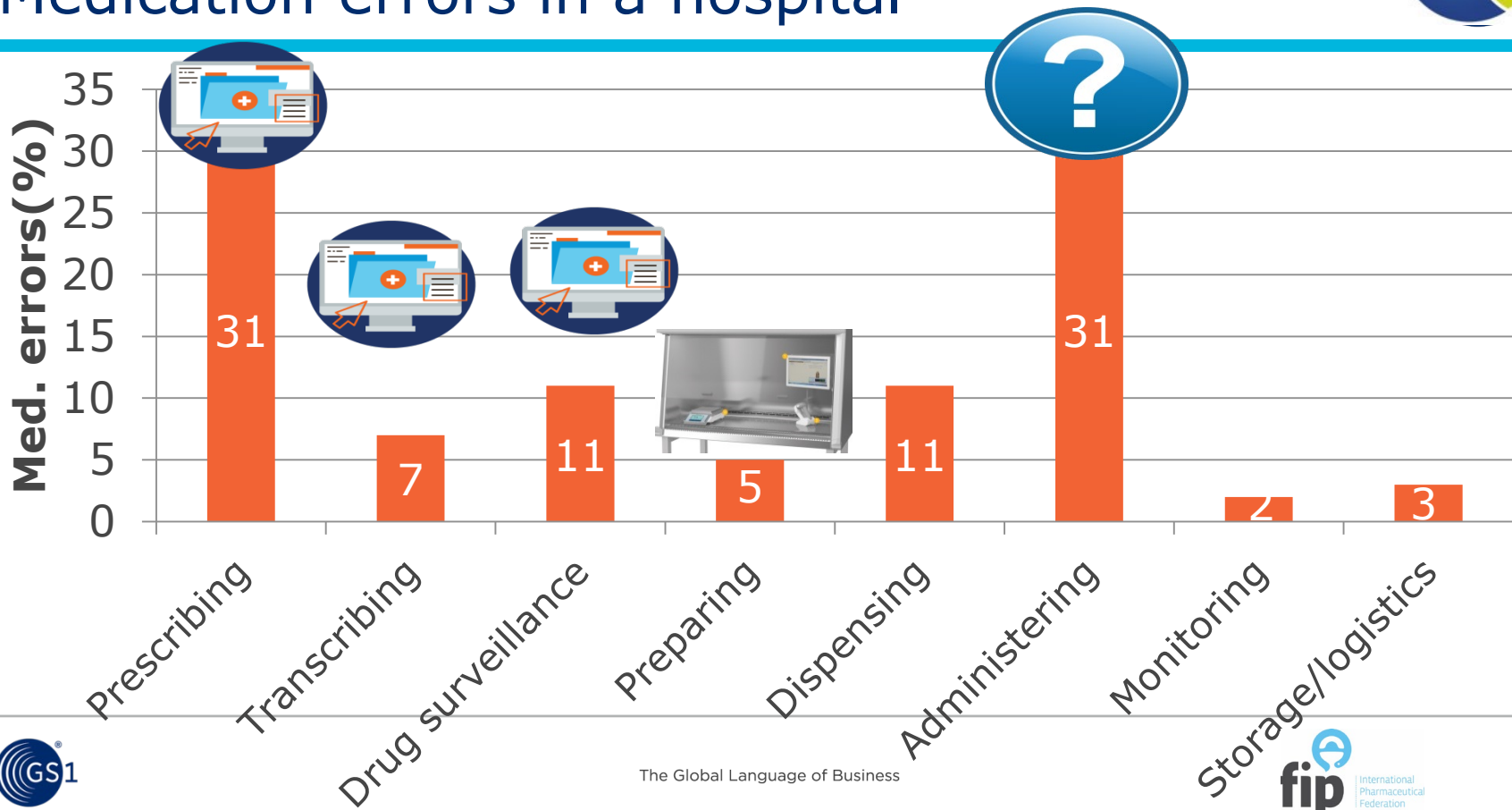
1999
Institute of Medicine (IOM) released
the report, "To Err is Human:
Building a Safer Health System"



Medication in a hospital



Medication errors in a hospital



Medication safety

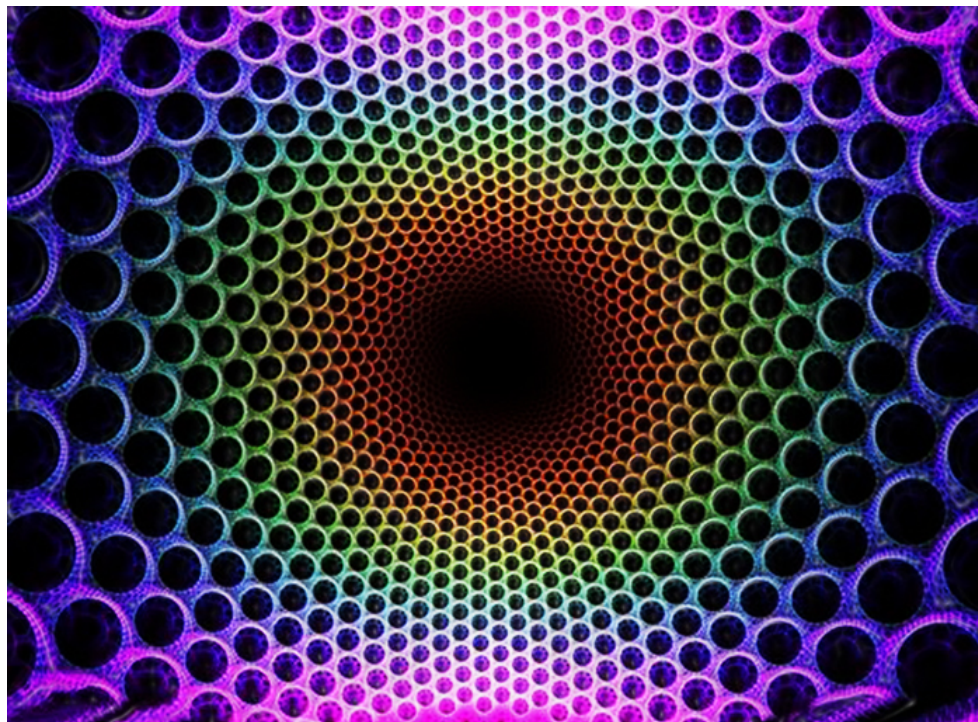


UNIT DOSE

- Identification
- Expiry date

- (01) GTIN
- (17) Expiry Date
- (10) Batch Number

Medication safety: the human factor





Medication safety: the human factor

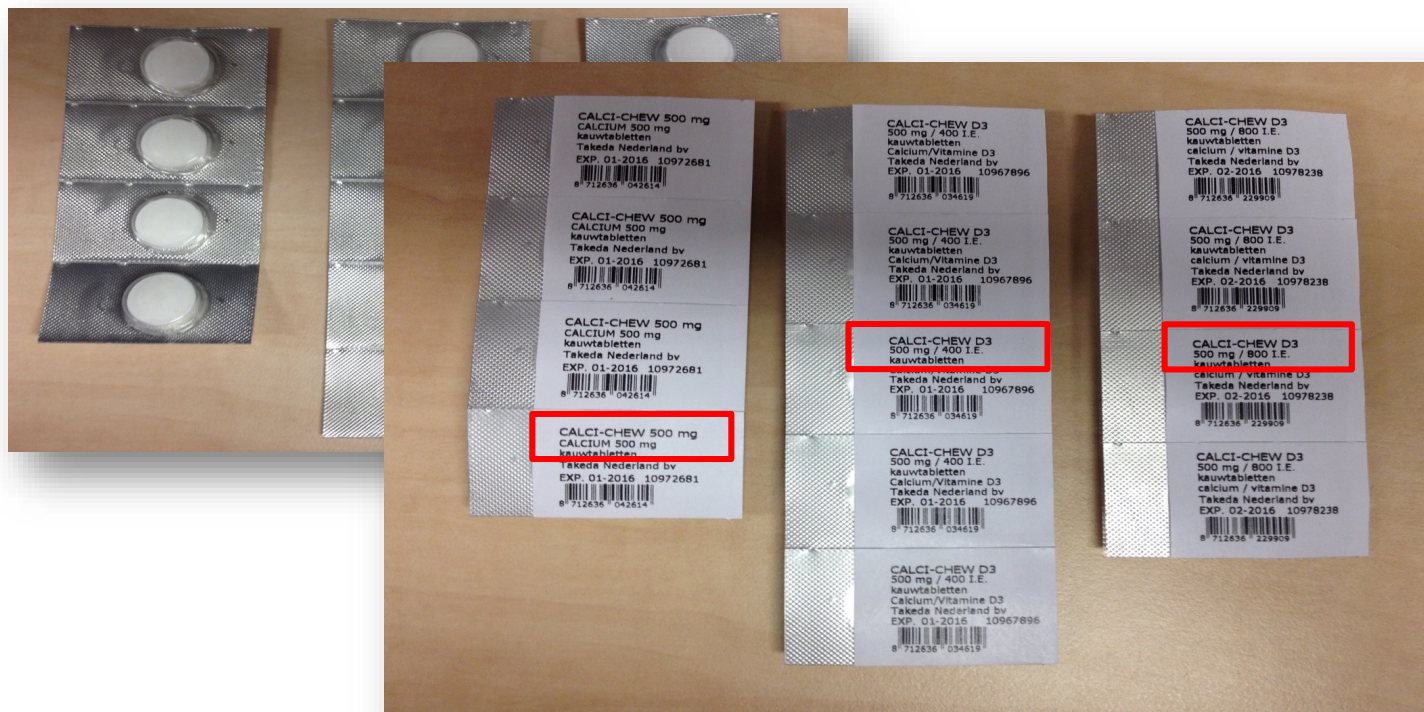
An investigation of an Elginh
Univetsiy doseverid taht it
dsoen't mtetar in wcihh oedrr
the lteetr are wteitrn in a wrod.
The only itcnorapme is that the
fsrit and the lsat lteetr are
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Medication safety: the human factor



KEEP
CALM
AND
Avoid
Medication Errors

Medication safety



Medication safety



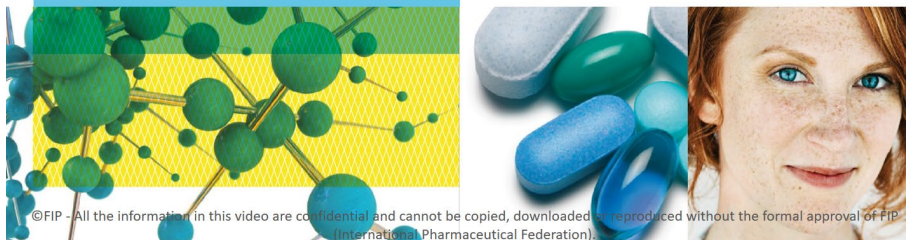
Medication safety

The Basel Statements

*Statements for the preferred
future in Hospital Pharmacy*



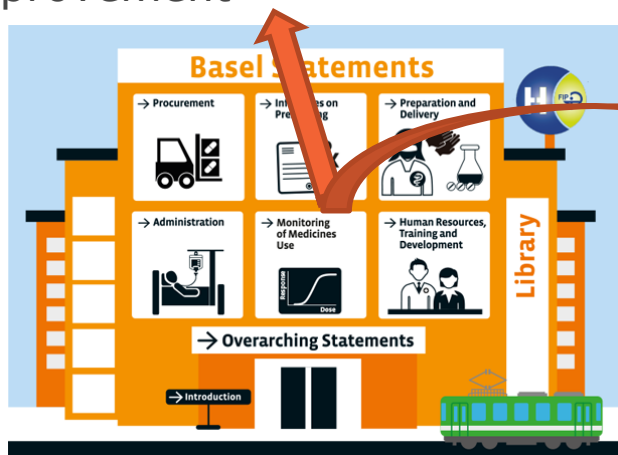
The Hospital Pharmacy Section of FIP



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Medication safety

47. Hospital pharmacists should ensure the development of quality assurance strategies for medicines administration to detect errors and identify priorities for improvement

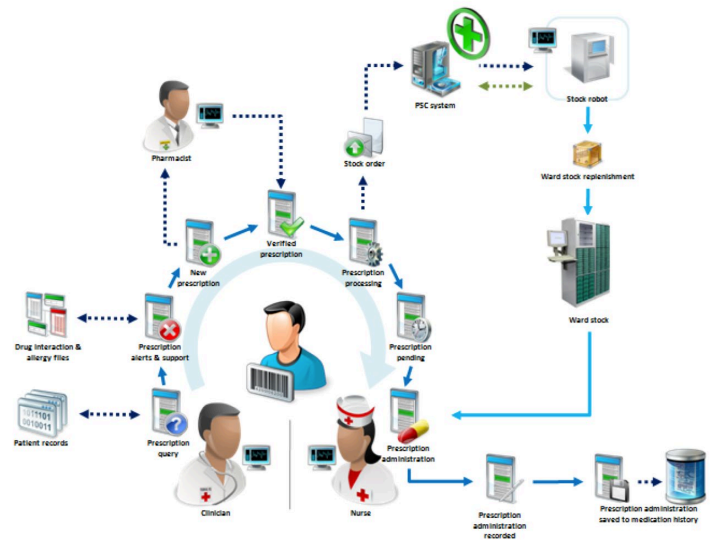
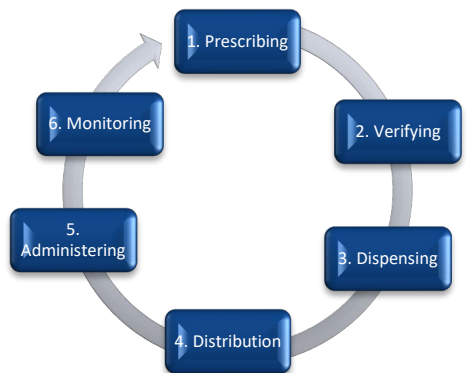


<https://www.fip.org/basel-statements>

48. The medicines administration process should be designed such that transcription steps between the original prescription and the medicines administration record are eliminated

Medication safety

Barcode Assisted Medication Administration





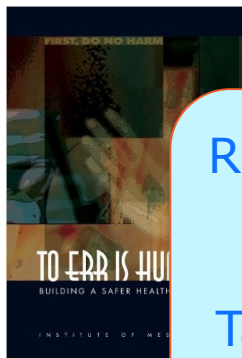
Medication safety

FDA workshop at the National Institutes of Health "Minimizing Medical Product Errors: A Systems Approach"

Drug manufacturers should make high leverage changes prior to marketing a product, including providing medications in unit dose packages and bar-coding their products.

1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004

Medication safety



Report prepared by the
Qual
Coord
Task F
to the IOI report

Bar coding of medications and use of robotics in dispensing medications can ensure that the appropriate medication is provided to the appropriate patient at the appropriate time.

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004



Medication safety

National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention (NCCMERP) recommends the implementation of **uniform bar code standards** into the medication use process

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

ASHP Statement on Bar-Code-Enabled Medication Administration Technology

HIMSS-sponsored journal, (JHIM) touted BCMA to Health IT industry



Medication safety

"A safe and effective medication-distribution system that is consistent throughout the organization." As part of that mandate, the standard will *require unit-of-use packaging* "when the medication is available from the manufacturer in such packaging, or repackaging by pharmacy into unit-dose is feasible."

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), proposed a new set of medication-use standards

1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004

FDA propose a new rule requiring bar codes on certain drug and biological product labels



Medication safety

Manufacturers, repackers, relabelers, and private label distributors of prescription and OTC drugs would be *subject to the bar code requirements*.

Applies to prescription drugs, biological products (other than blood, blood components, and devices regulated by the Centre for Biologics Evaluation and Research), and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs that are commonly used in hospitals.

FDA's final rule on bar code labelling

1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004



Medication safety





BCMA: implementation

92.6% of **US** hospitals have **barcode-assisted medication administration** systems, **ASHP national survey of pharmacy practice in hospital settings: Prescribing and transcribing-2016**
[Pedersen CA](#), [Schneider PJ](#), [Scheckelhoff DJ](#), [Am J Health Syst Pharm.](#)
2017 Sep 1;74(17):1336-1352

1999

2004

2009

2014

2019

2024



BCMA: implementation



SCAN+ SAFETY
Patient. Product. Place. Process.

**GS1 Healthcare Reference Book
2019-2020**

Stories of successful implementations of GS1 standards

1999

2004

2009

2014

2019

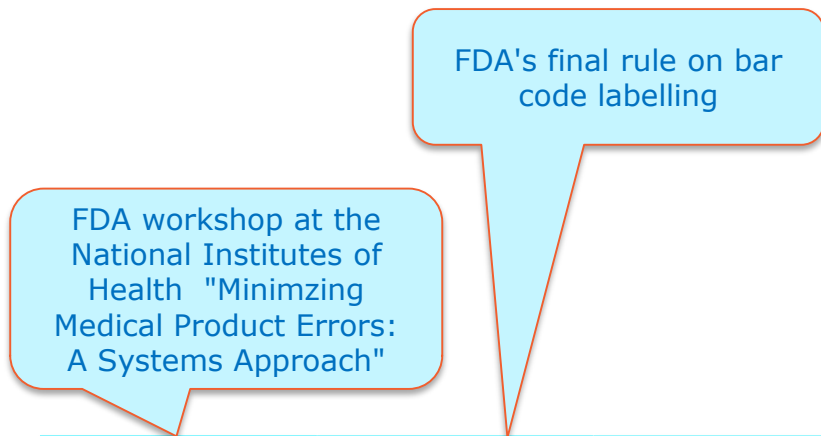
2024



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BCMA: repackaging





BCMA: implementation

?? % of **non-US** hospitals have **barcode-assisted medication administration** systems

- **JCI accreditation**
- **Individual activities**
- **National programs?**

1999

2004

2009

2014

2019

2024



BCMA: repackaging



Slide kindly provided by P. Helmons, St Jansdal



BCMA: repackaging



Geleidsbon barcode labeling Epic/CATO		Form145
Zakenlijstnummer	Vorm 3	AMFV 108 Pagina 1 van 1
Inleiding Alle binnenkomende producten die op de markt zijn met kenmerk "labelen" en "quantiteit" moeten worden voorzien van een barcode en de vorm van een QR code op de primaire verpakking. Deze verpakking wordt in de toekomst gebruikt als referentie voor het toelaten van producten die worden geproduceerd voor de EU-landen. Het kenmerk (EAN-13) wordt bij het etiket in Operatie opgegeven. Het op de achtergrond van de barcode moet "CATO" staan in de "c" van de nummering.		
Deel A - Geenomschik in verpakking anders dan de 12 plaatsen (EU / A.S.)		
Aanvraagnummer	13084631	toevoeging: 3C54
Naam geneesmiddel (de naam in de verpakking)	kanitidine mprist 25mg/ml	
Formaat	10x5	
Datum	17.8.17	
Deel B - Primaire QR verpakking (EU / A.S.) Bij het labelen van de verpakking is de QR code: <input type="checkbox"/> Niet aanwezig. Kenmerk voor ZS et., na W120181. Betreft het labelen van ZS et. samenhang met DAPO. <input type="checkbox"/> Aanwezig.		
Barcode label QR code op het etiket (aangegeven in de verpakking)	Aantal etiketten: 51 Datum: 41 of 8 (2) dagen Totaal: 51 Aantal etiketten per rij: 5 Bereikbaarheid aantal rijen: 10	Flak: QR Datum: 17.8.17
Deel C - Overname labelen (EU / A.S.)		
Aanvraagnummer	13084631	toevoeging: 3C54
Is het etiket reeds gebruikt?	<input type="checkbox"/> Ja <input type="checkbox"/> Nee	
Is het etiket reeds gebruikt in andere landen?	<input type="checkbox"/> Ja <input type="checkbox"/> Nee	
Is het etiket reeds gebruikt in het postvak van de KJF van?	<input type="checkbox"/> Ja <input type="checkbox"/> Nee	Datum: 17.8.17
Deel D - Controle (EU / A.S.)		
Labeling afkomstig:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ja <input type="checkbox"/> Nee	
Datum	17.8.17	

Slide kindly provided by P. Helmons, St Jansdal

1999

2004

2009

2014

2019

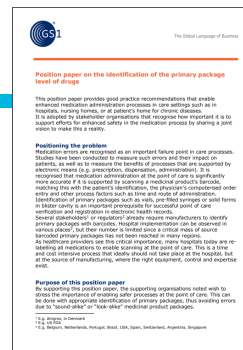
2024



Medication safety



Medication safety



FDA's final rule on bar code labelling

FDA workshop at the National Institutes of Health "Minimizing Medical Product Errors: A Systems Approach"

GS1 Position Paper on the identification of the primary package level of drugs (2017)

Endorsed by



Medication safety

Additional tendering options to improve patient safety (e.g. primary package barcoding or avoiding soundalike/lookalike) or efficiency (e.g. aggregated barcoding for compliance with the Falsified Medicines Directive) can be incorporated in the procurement process



EAHP Position Paper on Procurement
Advocating for the involvement of hospital pharmacists in procurement



Medication safety





BCMA: publications

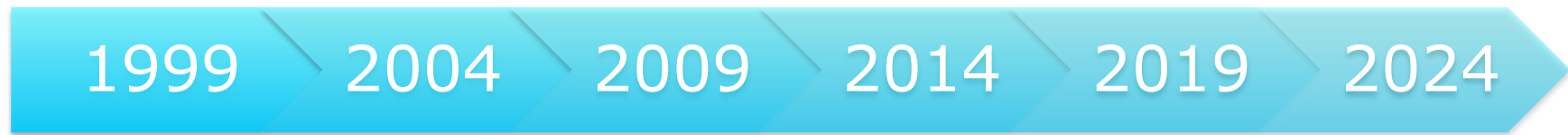
- Implementing BCMA with significant reduction in medication administration errors. **Effectiveness of barcode technology in medication administration department medication errors**, [Acad Emerg Med](#)

Implementation of BCMA-eMAR in two hospitals

was associated with significant increases in

total medication errors. Onsite pharmacist dispensing and BCMA were associated with fewer medication errors and are important components of a medication safety strategy in CAHs. **Comparison of medication safety systems in critical access hospitals: Combined analysis of two studies** [Cochran GL¹](#), [Barrett RS²](#), [Horn SD](#), [Am J Health Syst Pharm](#). 2016 Aug 1;73(15):1167-73

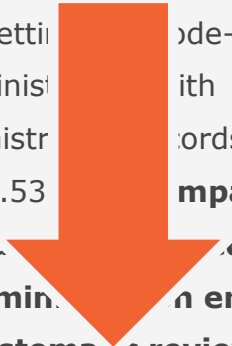
[Maddox RR](#), [Flynn EA](#), [Williams CK](#), [Am J Health Syst Pharm](#). 2014 Feb 1;71(3):209-18





BCMA: reviews

Review and critically appraise interventions designed to reduce MAEs in the hospital setting. Mode-assisted medication administration with electronic administration records (MAEs) (OR 0.71, 95% CI 0.53-1.04). **Interventions to reduce medication administration errors in hospitals: a systematic review** [Keers et al, Drug Saf.](#) 2014 May;37(5):317-32



BCMA has the potential to reduce nontiming administration errors, transcription errors, and total medication errors.

- 30-50%

ion
ematic
y When Used
er Entry and

Automated Dispensing Devices (Shah et al, [Can J Hosp Pharm.](#) 2016 Sep-Oct; 69(5): 394-402)



BCMA: reports

Barcodes on medication save 47 lives each year!



And:

- **250** cases of preventable harm
- **10.000** additional days in the hospital
- Total savings: **€21,4 million** euro
- Current number of Dutch hospitals with BCMA or other computerized check: about 10 (11%)

<https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2017/01/31/kamerbrief-over-barcodering-primaire-verpakking-geneesmiddelen>

(Dutch)

1999

2004

2009

2014

2019

2024

BCMA: primary pack barcoding



'They' are not ready

1999

2004

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2014

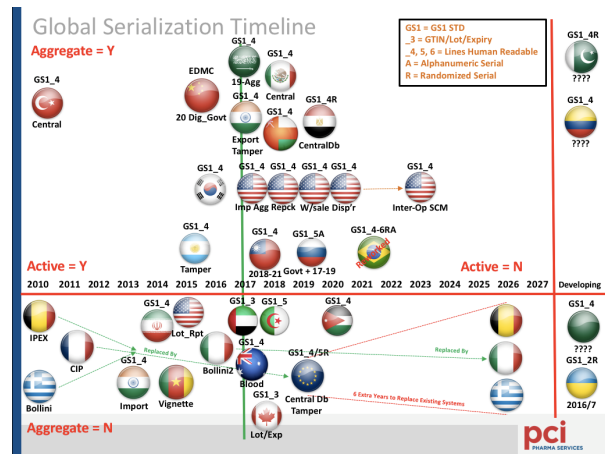
2019

2024

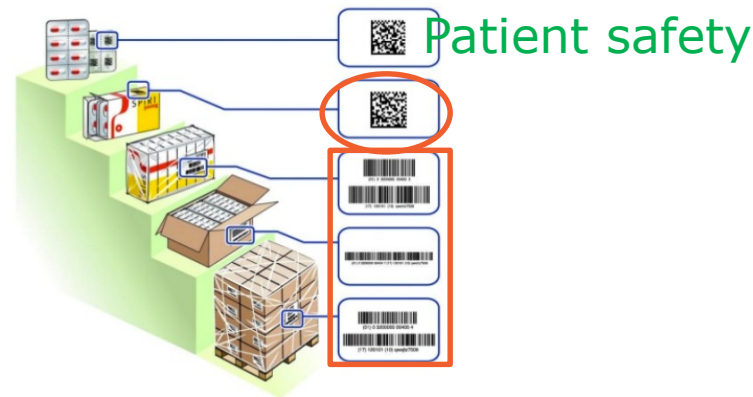
Serialisation

Anti-SF serialisation

FDA's final rule on bar code labelling



Serialisation



FDA's final rule on bar code labelling



Medication safety



Medication safety




SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





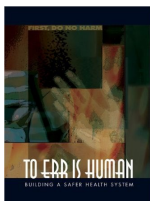
BCMA: implementation

 **p** of **non-US** hospitals have **barcode-assisted medication administration** systems

- **Availability of primary pack barcoding using GS1 standards**



Medication safety: a common standard



FDA workshop at the National Institutes of Health "Minimizing Medical Product Errors: A Systems Approach"



1999

2004

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2019

2024

Thank you for your attention

FIP Hospital Pharmacy Section

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