



Tuesday Talks with John



BIENNIAL NARCOTIC COUNTS

What exactly is a biennial narcotic count? Why do we have to perform them? And how are they done?

The word *biennial* should not be confused with *biannual* (sound alike look alike alert!). Biennial actually means once every two years, while biannual means two times per year. So the biennial narcotic count is an inventory of controlled substances that is taken once every two years.

Biennial counts should be thought of as a checkpoint. This inventory is a complete accounting of all controlled substances, in the facility, under the ownership of the DEA registrant at the date and time the count is completed. The biennial narcotic inventory is required by *DEA Title 21 §1304.11(c)* and *more information on the regulation can be found here*.

Although the biennial count must be completed by the 2nd anniversary of the initial controlled substance inventory and every 2 years thereafter, healthcare facilities may perform the count sooner, or at shorter intervals, if they like.

accuracy of the count.

4. The biennial count should be performed at the end of the day after all controlled substances have been returned from anesthesia or satellite stocks.
5. In general, the same rules apply to the biennial count as the perpetual narcotic log. Figures may not be written over and white out may not be used.
6. The biennial count must be performed at least once every two years, but may be performed more frequently.

If you would like further clarification on how to complete your biennial narcotic count please email John or Brittney at John@jdcconsulting.net or Britt@jdcconsulting.net

CLICK HERE FOR A SAMPLE BIENNIAL COUNT SHEET.

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