



August, 2018

## JDJ CONSULTING NEWSLETTER

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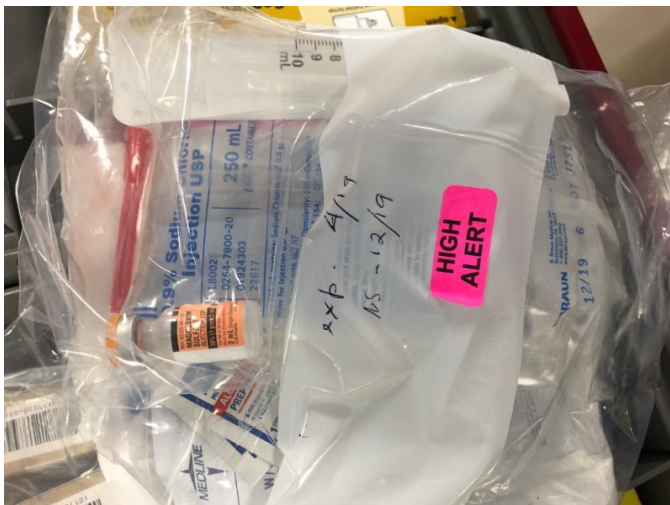
### SAFETY STRATEGIES

For Magnesium Sulfate

Magnesium Sulfate is considered a High Alert (HA) drug due to the increased potential for serious patient harm if used incorrectly.

Consider the following:

- Has your center included Magnesium Sulfate on your High Alert list?
- If Magnesium Sulfate is on your High Alert list, what safety strategies have you designated to the HA drug?
- Are your nursing staff *aware* of those safety strategies? (If so, are they prepared to discuss those strategies with a surveyor?)



Here are a few safety strategies for your center to consider for Magnesium Sulfate.

1. Make “grab kits” (shown above) for your

### FREE WEBINAR FROM JDJ!

*Let's talk about USP <800>*



COMING SOON...

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### CUSTOMIZE YOUR MED LISTS!

Sample Safety Strategies Lead to Citations!

There are some wonderful medication safety resources available on the internet. ISMP, or the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, has tools, resources, education, and even error reporting information. ISMP has free High Alert and Sound Alike Look Alike Drug lists available for download.

JDJ Consulting provides clients with sample High Alert lists and Sound Alike Look Alike Drug lists (see below). These lists include safety strategies for avoiding

magnesium sulfate. In the kit, include all supplies needed to mix the magnesium sulfate AND dilution instructions. Instructions should read, "Dilute 1-2 gms in 50-100 ml NSS".

2. Be sure that Magnesium Sulfate is on your center's High Alert (HA) list and the list is *posted* in your medication preparation room/ area.

3. Nurses and doctors should verify the dose of magnesium sulfate *before* administration.

4. Consider adding a High Alert sticker to the vial and/ or "grab kit".\*

\*If part of your safety strategy is to place high alert stickers on any medication package, be sure that you've informed all staff about this policy. As medications are un-packaged and stocked, they should have the sticker placed on them immediately. Once you've included stickering as part of your center's high alert safety strategy, surveyors are able to issue citations for any medications not stickered. As with all other policies, *you are obligated to comply with your own center's policies.*

[Download Article](#)

## SMART MEDICATION PREPARATION

*(You gotta keep em' separated...)*

In a recent newsletter, we discussed sink splash guards circumventing the "3 foot rule" for the proximity of a medication preparation area to a sink. Since then, several clients have approached us with some intuitive ideas for staying compliant for medication preparation.

errors and reducing risk.

These resources are a great place to start, **BUT YOU SHOULD NOT HANG THESE SAMPLE LISTS ON YOUR WALL WITHOUT REVISION!**

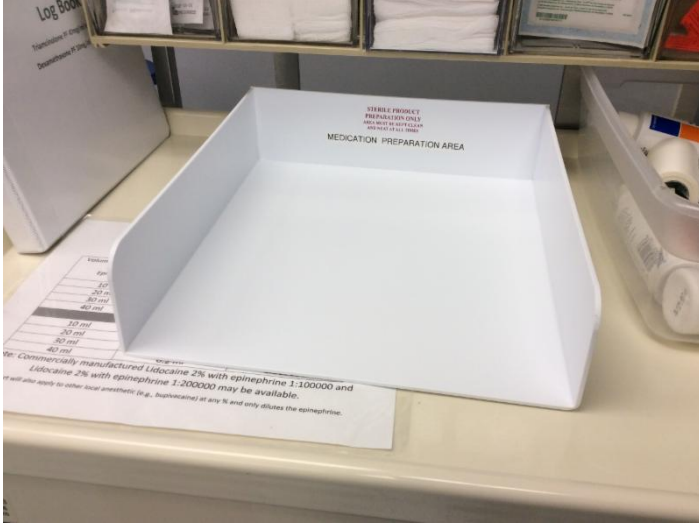
High Alert lists, Sound Alike/ Look Alike Drug lists, and even Hazardous Drug lists MUST be specific to YOUR facility. What does that mean? It means that only drugs appearing on your formulary should be included on that list. You'll need to see if any drugs at your center should be added to the list based on their potential for harm if misused, whether they're easily confused with another drug, or if there's another reason you feel that drug should be handled especially carefully.

The reason we have these lists is to reduce the risk of error through a visual alert (the list is hung in the medication preparation area) AND through utilization of safety strategies. By creating a list specific to your facility, you're demonstrating to surveyors that you're aware of the risks associated with that drug, you've considered how to prevent harm, and you've educated your staff on your center's safety strategy.

## SAMPLES & RESOURCES

[High Alert List Sample](#)

[Sound Alike Look Alike Drug List SAMPLE](#)



The above tray is an interesting way to make sure your medications and supplies stay segregated from other work spaces. This solution may, or may not, work for your center. Please note, this method does not excuse facilities from "immediate patient care area" rules.

[Take the JDJ Consulting USP <800> Survey](#)

## IMPORTANT RESOURCES

[CLICK HERE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD](#)

**USP GENERAL CHAPTER <800>**

[CLICK HERE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD](#)

**NIOSH Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings, 2016**

[CLICK HERE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD](#)

**USP GENERAL CHAPTER <797>  
PROPOSED REVISIONS OPEN FOR COMMENT  
PUBLISHED JULY 27, 2018**

[CLICK HERE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD](#)

**NIOSH Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings, Proposed 2018 Revisions**

<p>More than <b>8 million</b> healthcare workers are exposed to hazardous drugs every year<sup>1</sup></p>	<p>Exposure can happen in <b>any</b> healthcare setting</p>	<p>The handling of hazardous drugs may pose both <b>short<sup>2</sup></b> and <b>long term risks</b> to you<sup>3</sup></p>
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<800> HazRx™

### Download HazRx™ to:

- ✔ **Identify** if the drug you are handling is hazardous
- ✔ **Get information** on how to safely handle hazardous drugs in accordance to establish standards<sup>4</sup>
- ✔ **Stay up-to-date** on the list of over 1000 hazardous drugs with monthly updates
- ✔ **Keep a trusted source** at your fingertips to help you know your exposure to hazardous drugs

We're prepping for USP <800>, are you? Stay tuned for more news on the topic!

## JDJ Consulting News

**Cost Bench-marking Results are Now Available!**

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DATA COLLECTION FOR SUMMER 2018 BENCH-MARKING, COMING SOON!

Register for the 2018 Surgery Center Coalition!

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Drug Shortage Dashboard Template

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