

Keeping you "in the know" in the ASC industry

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# Medication Shortages and How to Handle Them

GREGORY TERTES, R.PH.
PHARMACIST CONSULTANT
ASC PHARMACIST CONSULTANTS, INC.





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### The Reality



Medication Shortages are **REAL** and not getting any better



Have a plan



Take a systematic approach



Communicate





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#### **The Statistics**



Medication Shortages are **REAL** and not getting any better



**2017** = 146

**2018** = 186



\*Injectable medications = 55%



Shortages may add \$230 million to annual U.S. drug costs



# Why is this happening?

Increase in regulatory enforcement

Disruption in supply of raw materials

Recalls

Manufacturing discontinuing product lines





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#### Have a Plan

- Secure multiple vendors
- Tap into local Network (DQSA Pedigree/Recalls)
- Find clinical alternatives
- Inform Staff/MD/Providers (Communicate)





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### **Emergency Cart Medication Shortage**

- Inform Leadership
- Identify Alternative
- Quarantine
- When was it last ordered?





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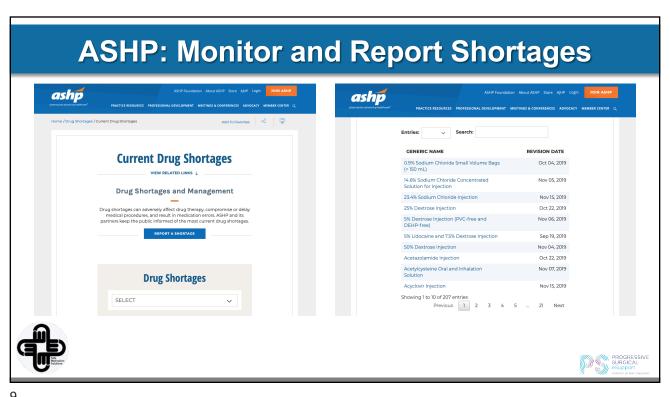
#### **Put a System in Place**

- Is the person in charge of ordering trained in clinical decision making and aware of the use of the medications?
- Monitor status of current shortages
  - https://www.ashp.org/Drug-Shortages/Current-Shortages
- Track with Medication Shortage Monitor
- Communicate

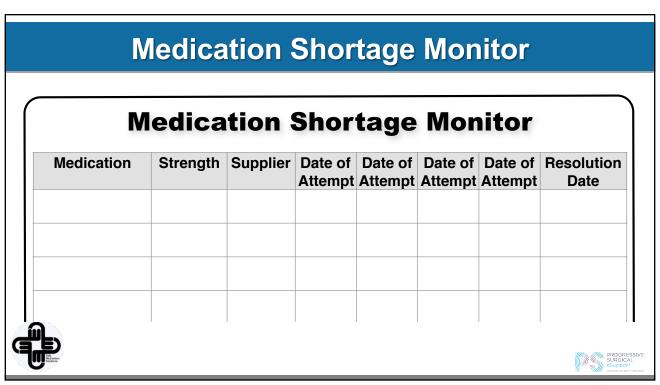




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### **Communication is Key**



Atropine 0.4mg/ml Normally Stocked

Atropine 1mg/ml Unusual/New Concentration

These look almost identical except the color. If you haven't been informed that it is now coming in a new concentration, you may figure its just a different color cap.







ΤT

#### **Communication is Key**



Midazolam 2mg/2ml Normally Stocked

Midazolam 10mg/2ml
Unusual
Concentration

These look almost identical except the color. If you don't know the color correlates to the concentration, you may figure its just a different color cap.







#### **Warning Labels**

Midazolam has a black box warning not to exceed 2.5mg/dose



- Create your own warning labels.
- Consider making each one unique!





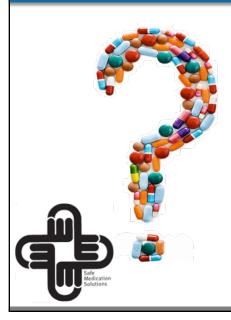
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## Thank you!



#### **Gregory Tertes, R.Ph.**

Consultant Pharmacist, President ASC Pharmacist Consultants, Inc. 510-710-3640

<u>gregory@SafeMedicationSolutions.com</u> <u>www.SafeMedicationSolutions.com</u>

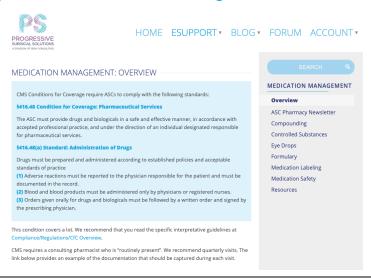
Safe Medication Management for Ambulatory Surgery Centers



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