Smart pumps, smart management, safe patients

The need

- Smart infusion pumps have reduced I.V. infusion errors, but continuing lapses, coupled with known smart pump technology limitations, require ongoing efforts to protect patients from harm.
- In April 2021, The Joint Commission released a Sentinel Event Alert on smart infusion pumps.

What organizations can do

- Choose appropriate smart infusion pumps.
- Establish policies and procedures.
- Design infusion pump drug library using DERS.
- Organize a collaborative oversight committee.

What clinicians can do

- Maintain clinical competency.
- Use patient safety technology.
- Select an appropriate infusion plan for each medication.
- Manage known error-prone administration applications.
- Use appropriate accessories.
- Maintain standard practice in patient care transitions.

See article for more.

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