



TRENDS ANALYSIS: MEDICATIONS

- Over 500 alerts
- 37% of all alerts in the database
- #1 topic for alerts, recommendations, searches and page views

Most common alert drug classes:

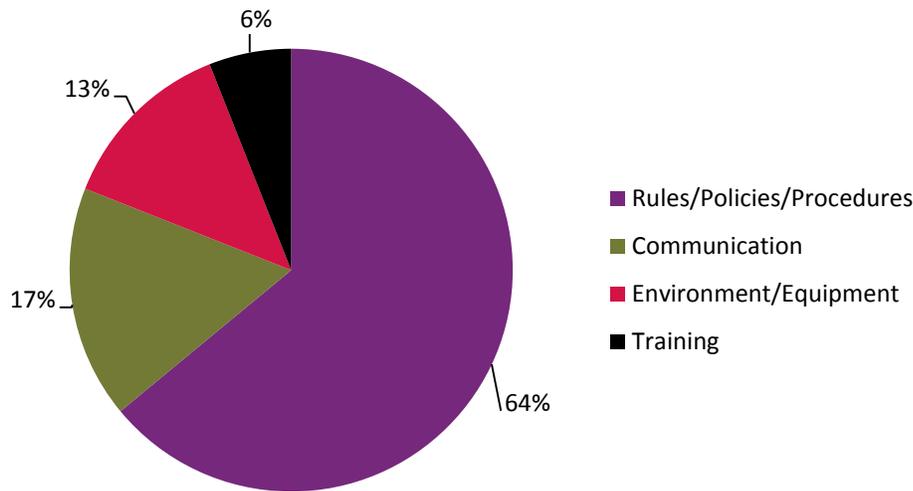
1. Opioids
2. Anticoagulants
3. Peptide hormones (Insulin)
4. Concentrated electrolytes
5. Chemotherapeutic agents

Most common alert topics:

1. Wrong dose or wrong route of administration
2. Drug mix-ups (wrong drug administered)
3. Drug interactions causing harm (e.g. failure to check allergies prior to medication administration)
4. Errors associated with drug packaging and labels
5. Medication administration to the wrong patient
6. Incomplete or lack of medication reconciliation resulting in error



Recommendation trends (July 2016):



Recommendation categories (adapted from the United States Department of Veteran’s Affairs National Center for Patient Safety):

- **Rules/Policies/Procedures**

Related to the existence and ready accessibility of directives including technical information for assessing risk, mechanisms for feedback on key processes, effective interventions developed after previous events, compliance with national policies, the usefulness of and incentives for compliance with codes, standards, and regulations.

- **Communication**

Issues related to communication, flow of information, and availability of information as needed. These recommendations reveal the importance of communication in use of equipment and application of



policy and procedure, unintended barriers to communication, and the organization's culture with regard to sharing information.

- **Environment/Equipment**

Factors related to use, location and maintenance of equipment; fire protection and disaster drills; codes, specifications and regulations; the general suitability of the environment; and the possibility of recovery after an error has occurred.

- **Training/Education**

Issues related to routine job training, special training, and continuing education; including the timing of that training. Training recommendations may concern application of approved procedures, correct use of equipment, or appropriate manipulation of protective barriers. They also focus attention on the interfaces between people, workspace, and equipment.