

November 2007 ISMP Automated Dispensing Cabinet (ADC) Survey (N=826)

Statement	Acute Care ADC Survey 2007 In %		Nurse ADC Survey 2007 In %		Combined Acute Care and Nursing ADC Survey 2007 In %		Acute Care ADC Survey 1999 In %	
	Always/Frequently Yes	Never No	Always/Frequently Yes	Never No	Always/Frequently Yes	Never No	Always/Frequently Yes	Never No
Medications in ADCs are specific to patient care units	88	1	90	1	89	1	95	1
Multiple concentrations of same drug stored in ADCs	33	16	36	23	35	19	35	12
Ready-to-administer doses are stocked in ADCs	92	1	81	1	87	1	95	0
ADC medications stocked in separate location in pharmacy	24	52						
Pharmacist checks restock medications before leaving the pharmacy	75	4					65	15
Another person verifies drug placement in ADC after re-stocking	18	46					18	54
Bar-coding used when selecting drugs for restocking ADCs	24	49						

Bar-coding used for restocking the ADCs in patient care areas	25	48					3	96
Only drug selected can be removed from ADC	50	4	50	9	50	6	30	9
Pharmacy staff must review/verify orders before removal of drugs from ADCs	72	11	56	24	64	17	28	62
List of override drugs are specific to units	65	13	63	10	65	11	36	51
Emergency medications are stocked in ADCs	51	18	50	25	50	22		
Nurses have to wait in line to access medications from ADCs	20	11	30	9	23	10		
ADCs are located in areas free from distractions	62	6	48	16	55	10		
Override drugs are double-checked by another nurse before administration	32	20	26	25	29	21	10	59
Override reports are analyzed by managers	57	8	42	10	50	9	38	44
Nurses remove one patient's medication at a time	61	3	69	5	65	4		

Nurses return drugs not administered to ADC return bins	64	13	69	10	66	11		
Non-medications are stored in ADCs	22	29	25	45	23	37	15	36
IV infusions/ piggybacks are stored in ADCs	46	19	38	38	44	27		
Warfarin is stored in ADCs	63	18	51	28	56	23		
All ADCs have profiling capabilities	51		68		59			
Criteria developed for determining drug products and doses stored in the ADCs	58		80		68		58	
Criteria developed for identifying inappropriate products in ADCs	57		79		67		53	
Policy regarding periodic review of ADC contents	83		90		87		84	
Policy regarding handling of medications removed from ADCs but not administered	80		85		82		86	
Procedure regarding transporting medications from ADCs to patient bedside	57		63		60			

Criteria developed for the use of overrides	83		79		81			
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