

Top 5 Medication Cart Storage Tips

1) Labeling

- a) Ensure that insulin pens always have a pharmacy prepared label (the reorder sticker is not a label).
- b) Write in and observe open dates for all medications with shortened expiration dates.

2) Cleanliness/Organization/Separation

- a) Medication carts need to be cleaned routinely.
- b) Clean and sanitize crushers, pill splitters, glucometers and counting trays after each use.
- c) Separation
 - i) Resident medications need to be separated by either route or resident.
 - ii) Keep all items in their original vials, boxes, bags etc.

3) Discontinued/Expired Medications

- a) Pull all DC'd and expired medications from the cart right away.
- b) Pull and swap out warfarin with the new order, even if tablets remain.
- c) Discontinued narcotics still need to be under double lock and counted until destroyed.

4) Narcotic Documentation

- a) Use pharmacy provided stickers or fill in every space on the top of each page.
- b) Sign out narcotics right away and use your full name.
- c) Write in "To" and "From" when transferring a drug to a new page/book and number books.

5) Security

- a) Keep the cart locked any time you step away from it.
- b) Place CII's and CIII's under double lock immediately.

