

PRESS RELEASE

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RE: Patient Safety from new technology



Oakes Community Hospital

*"Improving your health with
expertise, compassion, and grace."*



Smart pump infusion technology is a customizable safety solution that will help us to define medication dose limits and track IV drug therapy delivery to promote the safe, timely and effective administration of IV fluids and drugs. Benefits include:

- Reducing administration and medication errors
- Providing safer patient care
- Assisting with quality improvement efforts
- Promoting rapid adoption of IV best practices
- Supporting clinician confidence

During fiscal year 2011 and 2012, CHI will install Smart Pumps for medication infusion throughout the system in hospitals. Training for the hospital staff is being done to install these in the Oakes Community Hospital. We will go live with our new pumps in December.

Smart Pumps were chosen as a national initiative in order to improve patient safety and quality as well as improve pump availability and reduce cost.

- Plum A+ pumps are called "Smart Pumps" because they can be programmed with CHI's standard infusion medication library, including safe limits for dosage. If a caregiver accidentally enters a dosage that exceeds the safe limits, the pump immediately sounds an alert so the error can be prevented.

- Smart Pumps have been in use at Saint Joseph Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky, since 2005. During the first five months that the pumps were in use, they helped prevent more than 400 medication errors. That translates to an estimated five patient lives saved and annual cost savings of more than \$600,000 for that hospital.
- Smart Pumps also keep a log of all alerts, which can be compiled into reports and reviewed to identify opportunities for improvement and best practices in medication infusion.

Approximately 1.5 million preventable adverse drug events occur in U.S. hospitals each year. Well designed technology, such as smart pumps, that make complete patient information and decision support tools available to clinicians at the point of care enhance patient safety and prevent medication errors. We at Oakes Community Hospital are excited to utilize this new technology to enhance the excellent care we provide to the community.