Estimated Impact Of Medication Errors On An Average 300 Bed Hospital

WHERE ERRORS HAPPEN WITHIN THE HOSPITAL:

- Administration: 38%
- Dispensing: 11%
- Transcription: 12%
- Prescribing: 39%

MEDICATION ERRORS PER YEAR: 189,000

HARMFUL ERRORS: 1,890 (1%)

PATIENT DEATHS: 36 (1.88%)

300 BED HOSPITAL COST DUE TO HARMFUL ERRORS: $16.5 MILLION

ADDED HOSPITAL STAY DUE TO ERRORS: 3,609 DAYS

36 PREVENTABLE DEATHS PER YEAR

19% of medications administered in error (Barker KN, Flynn EA, Pepper GA, Bates DW, Mikeal RL. Medication Errors Observed in 36 Health Care Facilities. Arch Intern Med. 2002;162:1897-1903) 20 doses per day (Baker, J., Draves, M., Ramudhin, A., Analysis of the Medication Management System in Seven Hospitals: MedBPM study, 2008) 13,500 admissions (CareFusion data analysis) 3.5 average length of stay (H. Bueno, J. Ross, Y. Wang, J. Chen, et al, Trends in Length of Stay and Short-term Outcomes Among Medicare Patients Hospitalized for Heart Failure, 1993-2006, JAMA. 2010;303(21):2141-2147. CareFusion data analysis) 20 x 13,500 = 270,000 doses per patient day x 3.5 days average length of stay = 945,000 x 20% = 189,000


