Case Scenario – Patient experience in high-risk situation for medication safety

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Role of the Patient

- Patient Engagement in high-risk situations for medication safety

- A Patient Perspective
Effective Patient Engagement

- Recognizing bias
- Encourage questions/information sharing
- Use available resources to educate
- See the patient/family as trusted members of the care team
Creating a High-risk Medication Tool for Patients

- Include the patient perspective early
- Language matters when discussing risk
- Educate patients on what concerning signs and symptoms to report.
- Put it in writing
What is Oxytocin, why focus on this drug?

- Commonly used to start or advance labour
- Given by intravenous IV route
- Lack of patient awareness that oxytocin is a high-alert medication
- Lack of awareness of hospital guidelines.
- Multiple gaps in fetal heart rate (FHR) monitoring, negatively impacting the safe use of IV oxytocin.

Oxytocin Safety

- Patient handout developed in collaboration with patients and providers
- To increase role of the patient as a partner
- Funded by the Canadian Medication Safety Coalition
Implementation Guide

• This guide is designed to support healthcare providers when talking to patients about the use of oxytocin to start or advance labour
Results

• Results of pan-Canadian testing
• 100% of patients and over 70% of HCPs found this patient handout to be useful
• 73% of patients and 78% of HCPs found the handout easy to understand.
• Initial endorsement from 12 organizations and further dissemination is occurring nationally and internationally.
Final Thoughts

- Patients must be part of the care team
- Including Patients can improve patient safety
- Information tools can help
Medication Safety Tools for Patients

- 5 Moments for Medication Safety
  - [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-HIS-SDS-2019.4](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-HIS-SDS-2019.4)

- 5 Questions to Ask about Your Medications
  - [https://www.ismp-canada.org/medrec/5questions.htm](https://www.ismp-canada.org/medrec/5questions.htm)

- Oxytocin to Start or Advance Labour: 5 Questions to Ask and Implementation Guide
  - [www.ismp-canada.org/oxytocinsafety](https://www.ismp-canada.org/oxytocinsafety)