

## HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

<b>SUBJECT:</b> XI-127 HIGH-ALERT MEDICATIONS	<b>POLICY #:</b> 1274
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<b>DATE APPROVED:</b> 09/15/2017	

**PURPOSE:** To ensure a core list of high-alert medications is developed and maintained to increase awareness of safe medication practices at the Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC).

**POLICY:** The ASC staff shall follow the procedure below to ensure safe handling and administration of High Alert Medications, in accordance with recommendations of the Institute for Safe Medications Practices (ISMP), and the DHS Medication Safety Committee.

### DEFINITION:

High Alert Medications are drugs that have a high risk of causing injury, either as a result of a narrow therapeutic range or high incidence of reported serious adverse events.

### PROCEDURE:

1. The ASC Medical Advisory Committee will annually review the "High-Alert Medications List" for the ASC, produced by HDHS Pharmacy Director, following his/hers review of the list provided by DHS Medication Safety Committee
2. The actions related to the specific medications, recommended for physicians, nurses and pharmacists, will be evaluated and policies will be developed and/or revised when indicated, to ensure our compliance.
3. Medications designated as High-Alert Medications stored in the ASC will be marked with a "High Alert-Requires Double Check" sticker.
4. Medications designated as High Alert Medications should be handled by staff using the following principles, as applicable:
  - Use of a double check system
  - Avoidance of dangerous abbreviations

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5. If a new High-Alert medication is issued by the FDA, the Pharmacy Director will present it at the next ASC Medical Advisory Committee meeting, or will request an emergency meeting with the ASC Medical Director to review the new warning and decide on a plan of action, if indicated.
  
6. Monitoring of high-alert medications will include review of events entered in Safety Intelligenece Portal.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Ambulatory Surgical Center High Alert Medications, March 2017

High Alert Medications: DHS Core List, October 2016

<b>Original Date:</b> 08/25/2008
<b>Reviewed:</b> 09/15/2017
<b>Next Review Date:</b> 06/15/2020
<b>Previous Review Dates:</b> 08/25/08; 02/11/09; 07/05/13
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