



High Desert Health System POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 320
VERSION: 2

SUBJECT: SOUND-ALIKE, LOOK-ALIKE DRUGS

PURPOSE:

To identify Sound-Alike, Look -Alike Drugs (**SALAD**) found in the High Desert Regional Health Center as an effort to identify and prevent errors.

POLICY:

The Sound-Alike, Look-Alike drug list was developed from the Institute of Safe Medication Practices' (ISMP's) "List of Confused Drug Names" and from medication error reports and recommendations from High Desert Regional Health Center Pharmacy staff .

Strategies shall be implemented as safeguards to reduce the risk associated with confusion.

These strategies may include:

- The use of brand and generic names on storage bin labels
- The use of tall man lettering to emphasize differences in medication names
- Purchasing alternate products with less similar packaging and/or appearance
- Segregating products with sound a-like, look a-like names when possible
- The use of sound- alike, look-alike warning labels on storage bins

This list shall be reviewed annually and updated based on root cause analysis data generated from medication error report, feedback from pharmacy staff, and further recommendations from ISMP.

Attachments

HDRHC Pharmacy Sound A-like, Look A-like Medication list