

# COMMITTEE FOCUS – QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY BULLETIN

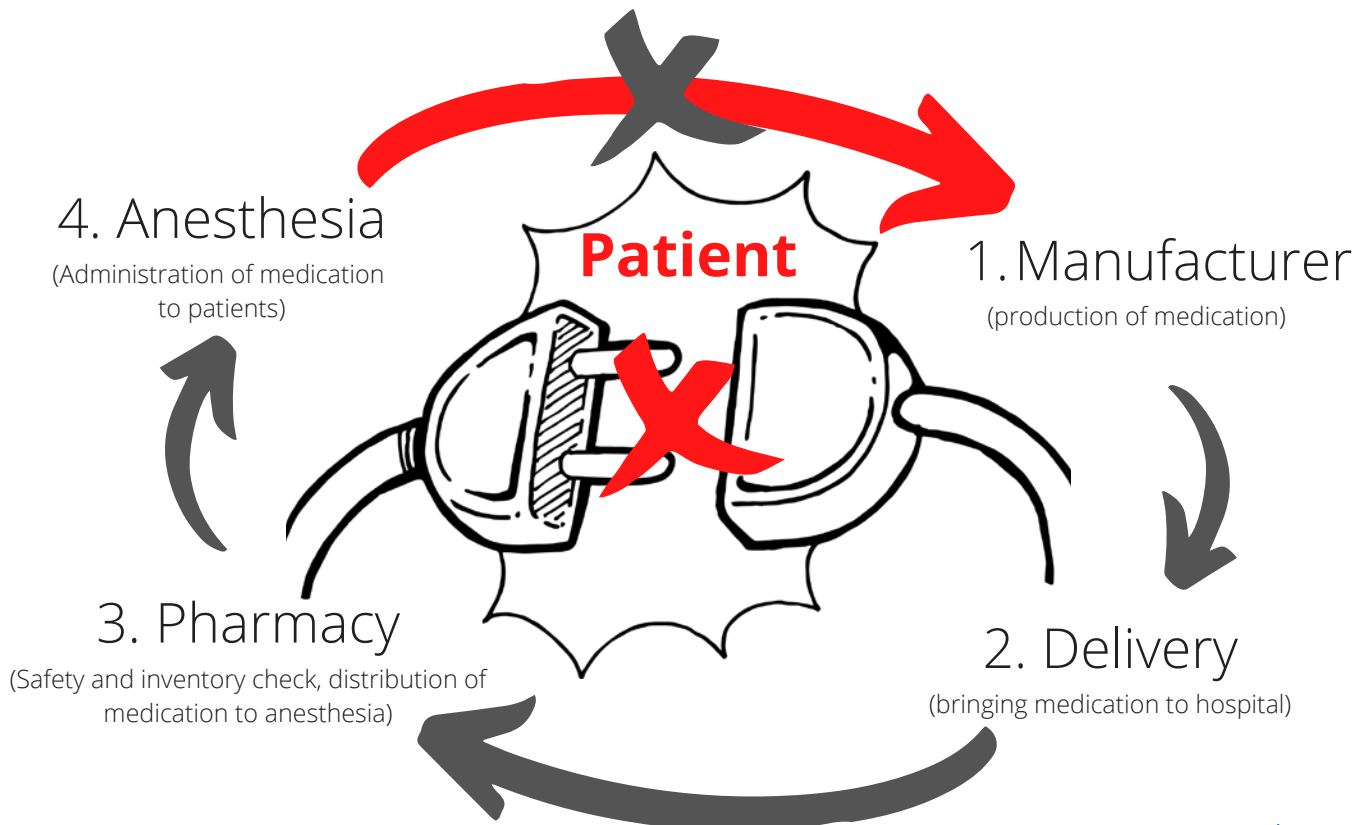


## CAS QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY COMMITTEE BULLETIN

### MEDICATION SAFETY LOTTO: CAN YOU SPOT THE IMPOSTER?



*Shortages & back-orders of medication supplies increasingly result in multiple changes to formulations & labelling of medications used in clinical anesthesia care. This bulletin serves to provide minimum expectation of practicing anesthesiology departments, independent practitioners, pharmacy departments & industry*



...continued on page 14

## The reality of current processes of medication delivery is a broken circuit of communication

*Our understanding of how our own part of the circuit works is improving*

### Root Causes:

- *Communication: Absence of, Breakdown of*
- *Drug-Information: Labelling, Ampoule size & colour*
- *Environment-related: Infrastructure, Tech, Support*
- *Process-related errors: e.g., look-alike meds stored side by side; information, reporting, feedback*

### Departmental Aims:

#### Early identification, Accountability, and Solutions

**(Based on 2021 CAS Guidelines Statement: (Section 3.1)**

- *Communication expectations between Anesthesia and Pharmacy*
- *Ensure robust system of incident reporting & analysis*
- *Build & Encourage local +/- national data sharing*
- *Adoption of next-generation solutions such as automation & barcoding*

### Prevention Strategies:

- *A Multidisciplinary team designated for medication safety*
- *Early identification and communication of shortages, changes in supply chain e.g., drug concentration or look-alike vials*
- *Adoption of early notification systems related to safety concerns and shortages*
- *Standardized drug carts with spatial and visual separation of look-alike medications*
- *Root-cause analysis of identified system errors - Identify the breaks in your circle*



**To see what we know about the rest of the circuit:  
please turn to the next page**

*This page is intentionally left blank*



**CAS QPSC MEDICATION SAFETY WEBINAR**  
**JOIN THE CONVERSATION**  
**SEPTEMBER 2022 #COMPLETETHECIRCUIT**

[https://www.bjanaesthesia.org/article/S0007-0912\(17\)30113-7/fulltext](https://www.bjanaesthesia.org/article/S0007-0912(17)30113-7/fulltext)

**Developed by: Drs.M Al Mandhari, Toronto ON. ESH Kang, Montreal Quebec**