MEDAVIE HealthEd ÉduSanté

Legal Aspects and Risk Management

Advanced Care Paramedicine

Module: 03

Section: 02

Objectives

- Aseptic technique
- Legalities and policies
- Adverse drug events
- Special considerations

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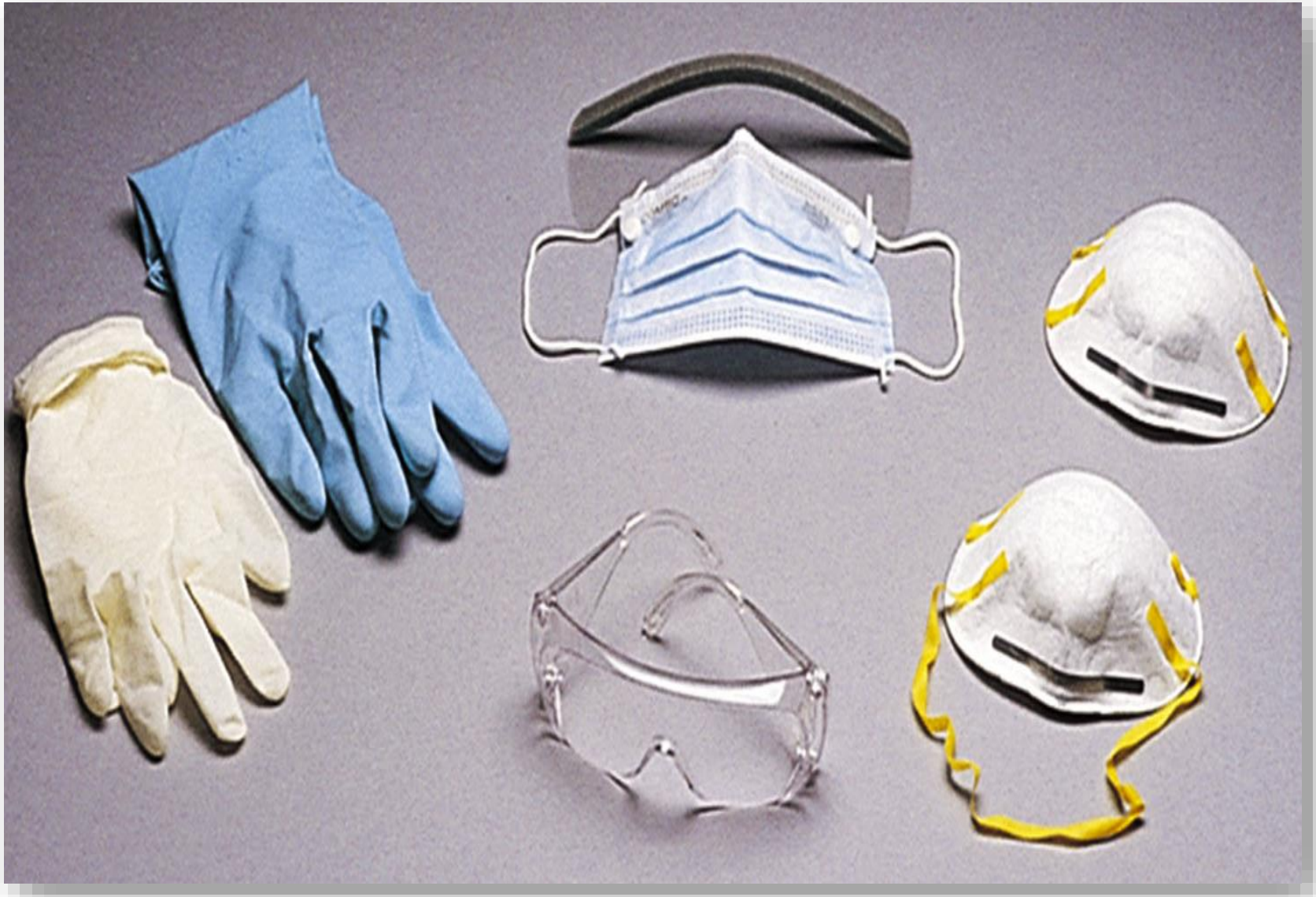
Body Substance Isolation Equipment



Body Substance Isolation Equipment

- Always take appropriate body substance isolation measures to reduce your risk of exposure during medication administration.

Medical Asepsis

- Asepsis
  - Condition free of pathogens
- Sterile
  - Free of all forms of life
- Medically clean
  - Involves careful handling to prevent contamination

Body Substance Isolation Equipment

- Treat all blood and body fluids as potentially infectious.

Needle Handling Precautions

- Minimize the tasks performed in a moving ambulance.
- Immediately dispose of used sharps in a sharps container.
- Recap needles only as a last resort.

Seven Rights of Drug Administration

- Right person
- Right drug
- Right dose
- Right time
- Right route
- Right documentation
- Right to refuse at any time

Drug Administration

- Knowing all drug administration protocols is essential.

Medical Direction

- Paramedics do not practice autonomously
- Medical director will determine which medications you will use and by what routes

Standing Orders

- Standing orders authorize you to perform certain procedures without contacting a physician
  - Most often encountered in settings where patient needs have been defined that can be met competently by a health care provider
  - Example: Registered Nurses on PACU at NHI can admin 0.5mg atropine IV for patients with HR <40
- Not often encountered in the preshopital setting where paramedics work under protocols and guidelines

Medication Errors

- Canadian Adverse event study
  - 7.5 adverse events per 100 admitted hospital patients
  - 37% preventable
  - 9,250 – 23,750 preventable deaths
  - Drugs were the second most common cause of adverse events behind surgery
- Need to move away from a culture and blame and shame to a culture of reporting and learning from our mistakes
- High alert medications have an increased risk of harm when they are used in error
  - Pre-hospital examples of high alert medications
    - Dextrose higher than 20%, amiodarone, epinephrine, neuromuscular blockers
  - In hospital policies often include double checks

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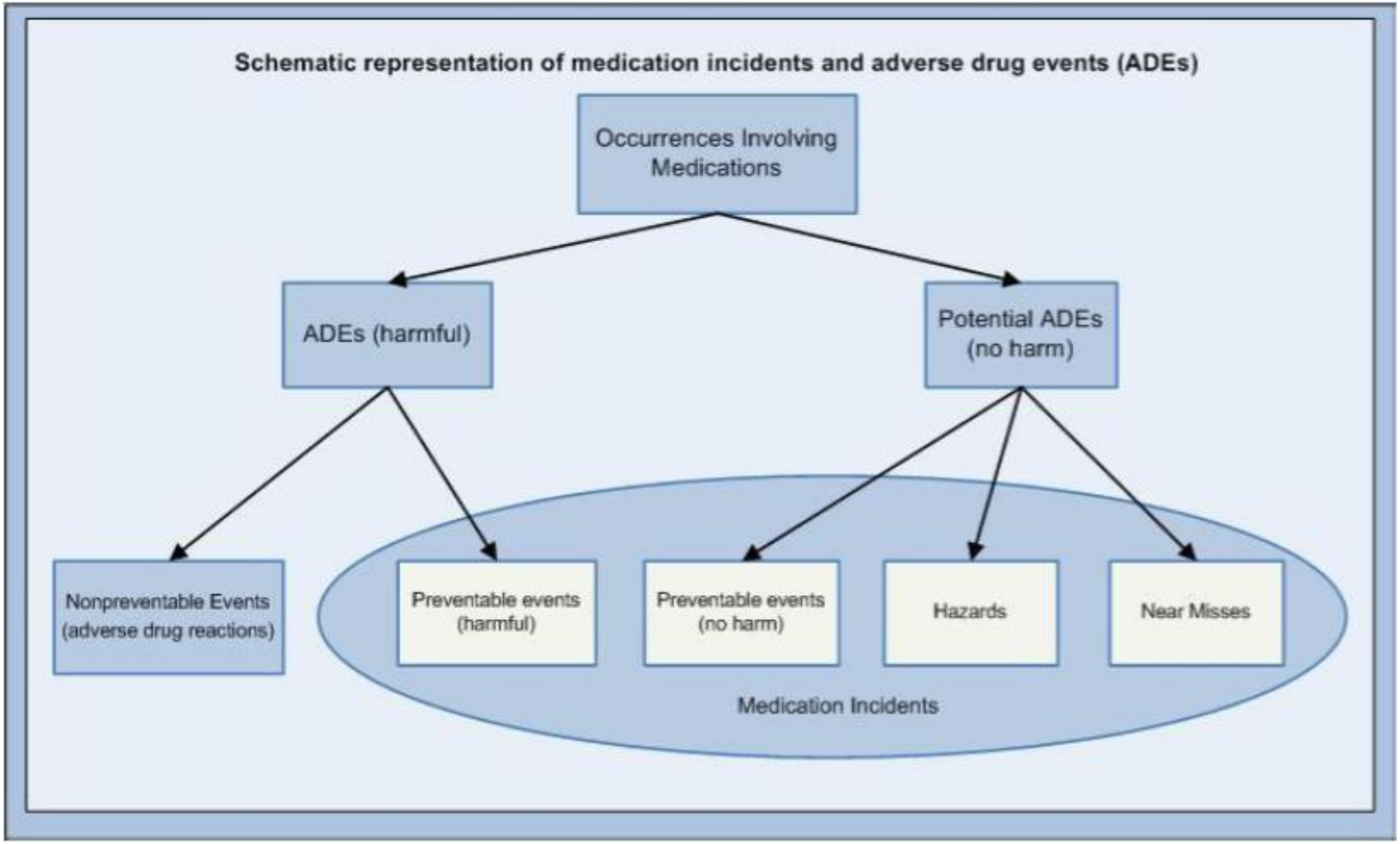
Adverse Drug Events



Reporting

- Med errors and near misses
  - Institute for safe medication practices (ISMP) Canada (www.ismp-canada.org)
    - Independent, non-for-profit organization committed to advancement of medication safety in all healthcare settings
    - Anonymous reporting tool
    - ISMP reviews and analyzes medication incident and near-miss reports according to a hazard ID tool. They then can use that information to identify contributing factors, causes, and make recommendations to prevent harmful medication incidents
- Medication adverse drug reactions
  - Canada Vigilance collects post-market information through surveillance from reports of suspected adverse reactions to health products marketed in Canada

BROUGHT TO YOU BY ismp CANADA

A COMPONENT OF THE CMIRPS Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System SCDPIM Système canadien de déclaration et de prévention des incidents médicamenteux

Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System (CMIRPS) Program

REPORT a Medication Incident

Practitioners:
Healthcare Professional - (e.g., nurse, pharmacist, physician)

SafeMedicationUse.ca for consumers

General Public:
Preventing harm from medication incidents is a responsibility of health professionals. **Consumers like you** can also play a vital role.

SHARE

ISMP Canada Activities for the CMIRPS:

- Reporting Systems for Medication Incidents
- A consumer medication safety reporting and learning program: SafeMedicationUse.ca
- Safety bulletins and alerts by ISMP Canada about medication incidents and prevention strategies
- Medication Safety Self-Assessment programs
- Root Cause Analysis workshops and frameworks
- Failure Mode and Effects Analysis workshops and frameworks
- Responding to queries on medication safety (email or telephone)
- Medication safety workshops and webinars

The key partners in the development and implementation of CMIRPS are Health Canada, ISMP Canada, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), and with recent support from the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI).

Contact us by sending an email message to cmirps@ismp-canada.org or call 416-733-3131 or toll free: 1-866-544-7672.

Purpose of the CMIRPS

Evaluation of ISMP Canada Activities

Bulletins

PDF Downloads

- Labelling and Packaging: An Aggregate Analysis of Medication Incident Reports
- Evaluation of the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System Services provided by ISMP Canada
- Consultation Document: Working with Consumers to Prevent Medication Incidents - A Consumer Reporting and Learning Strategy for the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System
- Medication Incident Analysis and Learning Framework
- Roles and Responsibilities for the CMIRPS
- Business Plan for a Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System in Canada
- CMIRPS Information brochure
- Joint Publication: Development of the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System
- ISMP Canada CMIRPS Project Charter
- CMIRPS conceptual systems model
- CMIRPS Core Data Set for Individual Practitioner Reporting

Background Information on the CMIRPS

Health Canada Santé Canada

Canada

Health Canada
www.hc-sc.gc.ca

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Home > Drugs & Health Products > MedEffect Canada

MedEffect Canada
- Adverse Reaction Database
- Adverse Reaction Information
- Adverse Reaction Reporting
- Advisories, Warnings & Recalls
- Advisory Committees and Working Groups
- Health Product InfoWatch
- Learning Centre
- Resource Centre
- Safety Reviews
- Stay Informed - MedEffect Canada

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- Main Menu
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- Media Room
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Transparency
- Regulatory

Drugs and Health Products

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Canada Vigilance Program

MedEffect™ Canada
Together we can improve health product safety
www.healthcanada.gc.ca/medeffect

Quick Links
- MedEffect Canada Home Page
- Report an Adverse Reaction
- Learn About Adverse Reactions
- MedEffect Canada RSS Feeds and MedEffect e-Notice
- Health Product InfoWatch
- Reports and Publications

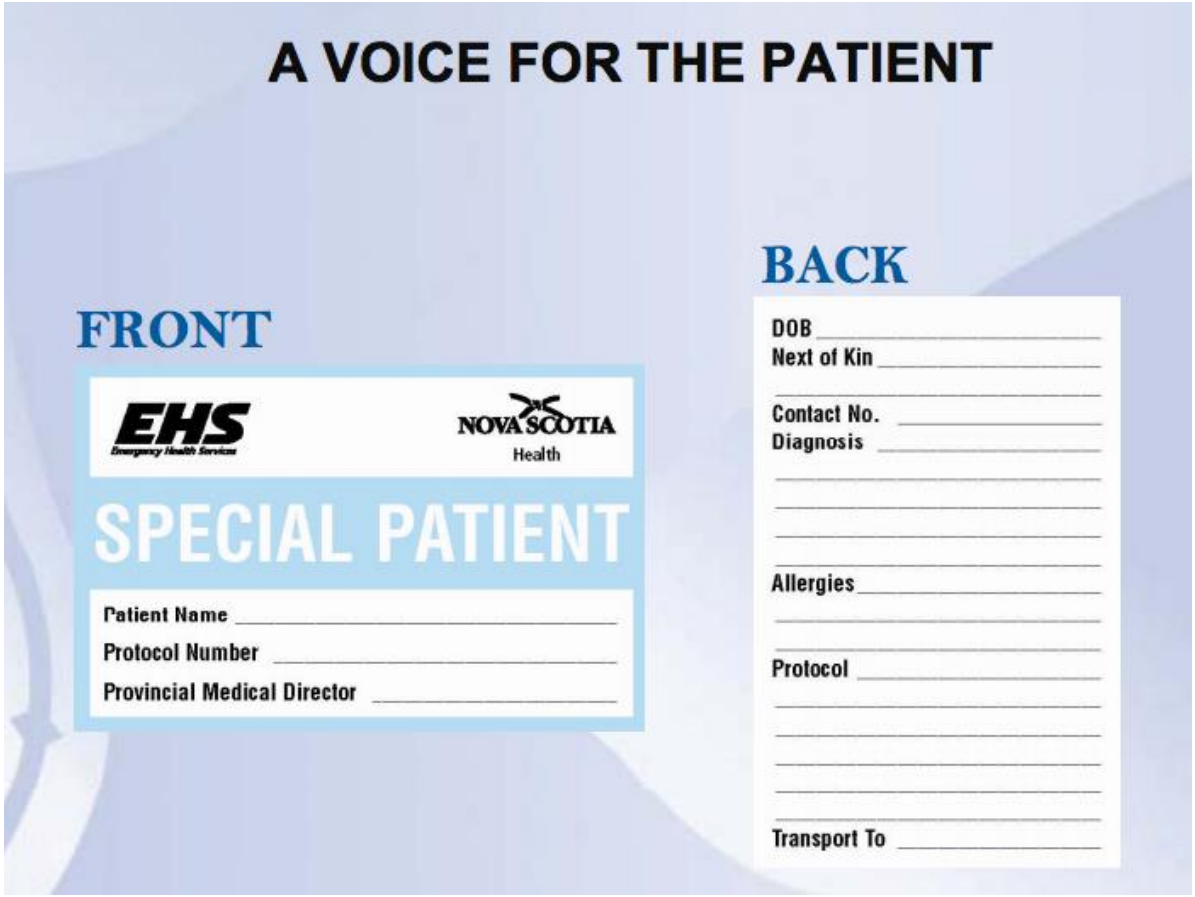
The Canada Vigilance Program is Health Canada's post-market surveillance program that collects and assesses reports of suspected adverse reactions to health products marketed in Canada. Post-market surveillance enables Health Canada to monitor the safety profile of health products once they are marketed to ensure that the benefits of the products continue to outweigh the risks.

The Canada Vigilance Program has collected reports of suspected adverse reactions since 1965. Adverse reaction reports are submitted by health professionals and consumers on a voluntary basis either directly to Health Canada or via Market Authorization Holders. The following health products marketed in Canada are collected by the program: prescription and non-prescription medications, biologics, natural health products and radiopharmaceuticals. The information collected by the program can be accessed through the Canada Vigilance Online Database.

The Canada Vigilance Program is supported by seven Canada Vigilance Regional Offices who provide a regional point-of-contact for health professionals and consumers. Reports are collected by the regional offices before being forwarded to the Canada Vigilance National

Special considerations

- Special patients



Special Considerations

- Drugs that have dosage adjustment requirements for renal or hepatic impairment
  - Most often seen with patients who have altered creatinine clearance
    - Lower creatinine clearance is a sign of decreased function
- Medications that are dosed by weight
  - Some are dose by absolute body weight and some by ideal body weight
  - Often the case with pediatric patients
    - Refer to Broselow tape

Summary

- Regardless of the governing body, it is the responsibility of the Paramedic to fully understand the medication they are going to be administering.
- The paramedic must provide the patient with all pertinent information with regards to the medication.
- It is the duty of the paramedic to know the indications, contraindications, dosages, routes of administration, side effects and safe handling techniques for all required medications.