



2007 Study of Injectable Medication Errors

An Independent Study Sponsored by the American Nurses Association and Inviro Medical Devices

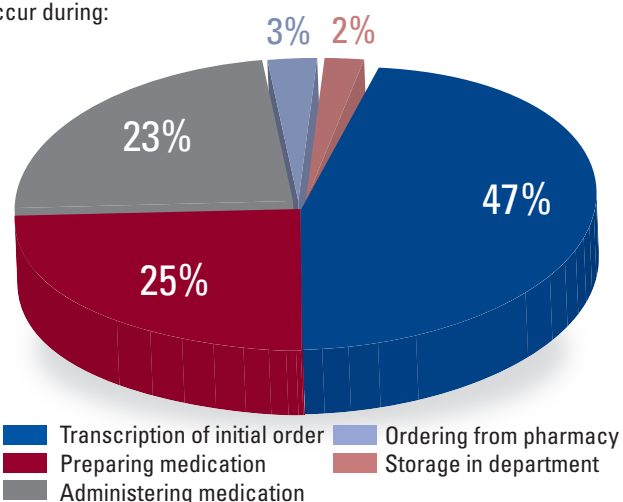


Summary

The 2007 Study of Injectable Medication Errors gathered opinions of 1,039 U.S. nurses about errors related to injectable medications and syringe labeling. The independent research, sponsored by the American Nurses Association (ANA) and Inviro Medical Devices, reveals 97% of nurses worry about medication errors, and two-thirds (68%) believe medication errors could be reduced with more consistent syringe labeling.

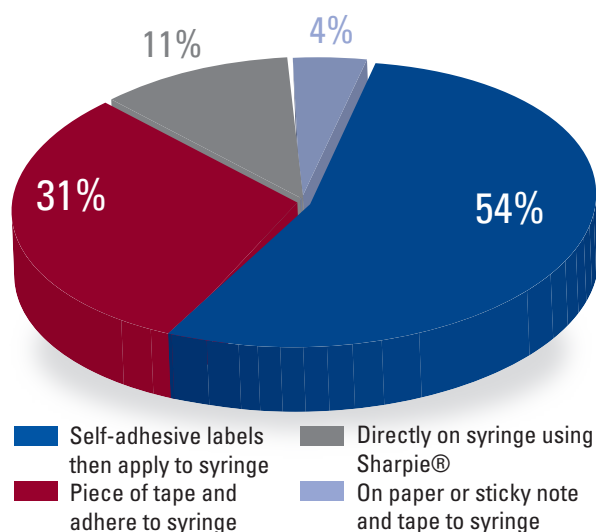
Grave concern about medication errors

Nearly all (99%) U.S. nurses believe there is serious risk to patients if errors occurred. Medication errors are most likely to occur during:



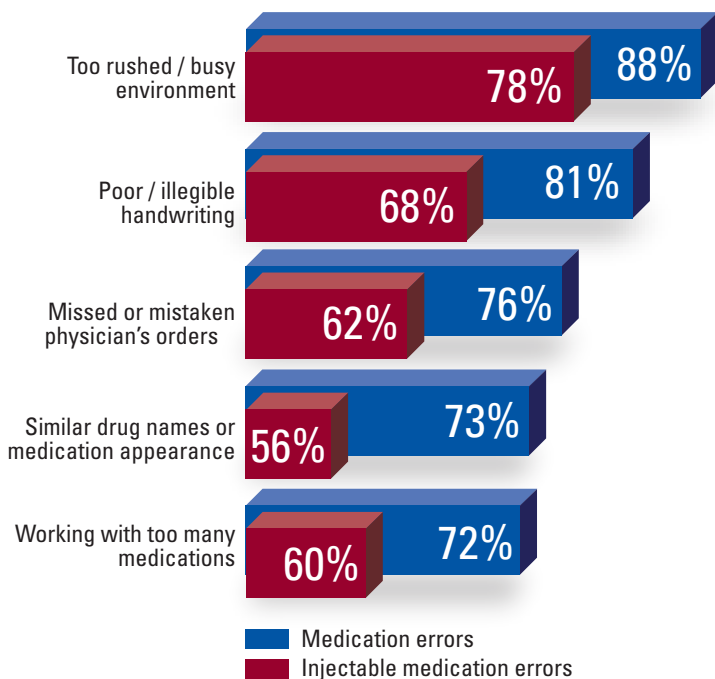
Syringe labeling practices

Nearly three-quarters (72%) of nurses label syringes by writing on:



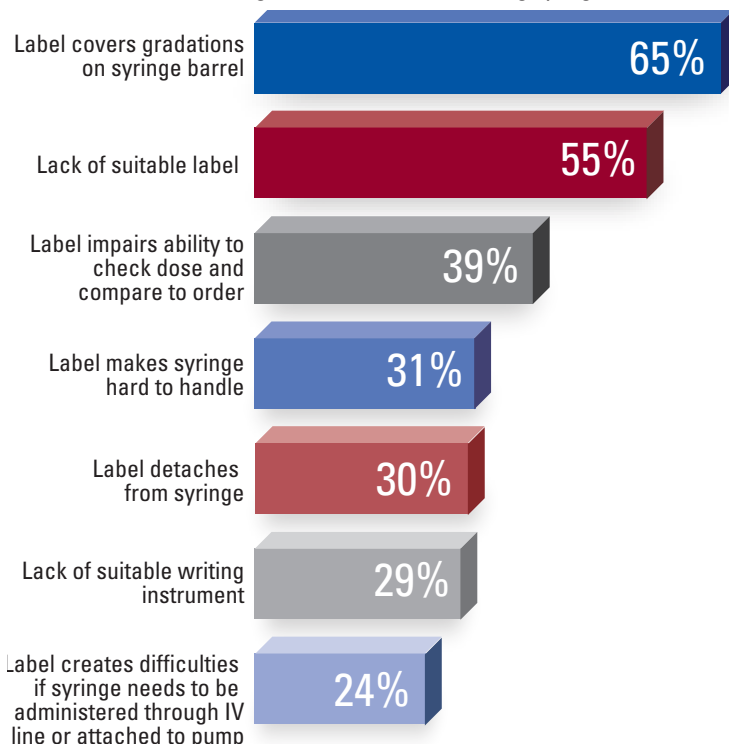
Medication errors

44% of U.S. nurses use injectable medication more than five times per shift. The most common factors that contribute to medication errors are:



Significant challenges with syringe labeling

U.S. nurses reveal challenges associated with labeling syringes...





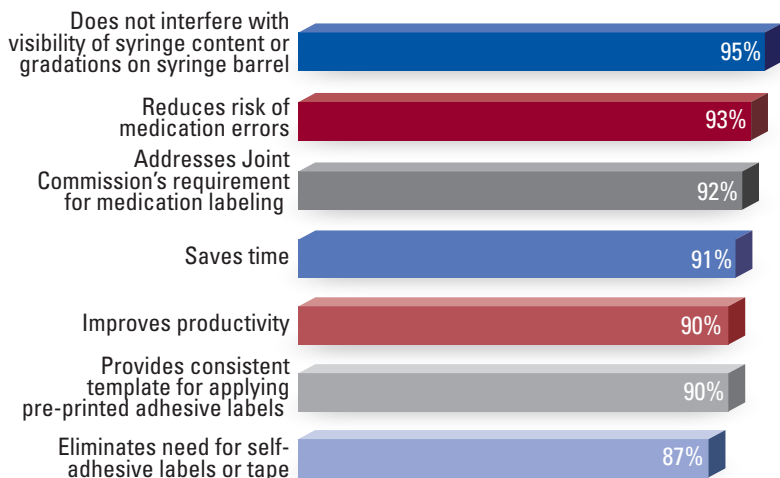
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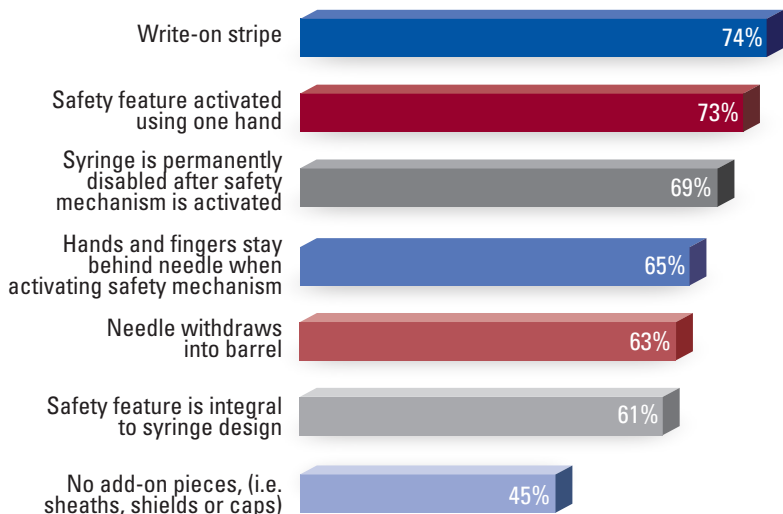
Major benefits of a write-on stripe

According to nurses nationwide, the major benefits of a write-on stripe, which allows critical information to be recorded directly onto the syringe barrel, are:



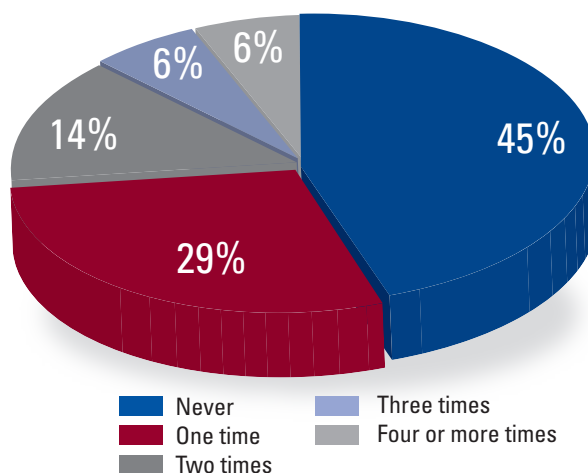
Nurses recommend design improvements

The majority of U.S. nurses (68%) believe medication errors can be reduced with more consistent syringe labeling. Nurses would improve syringe design with...



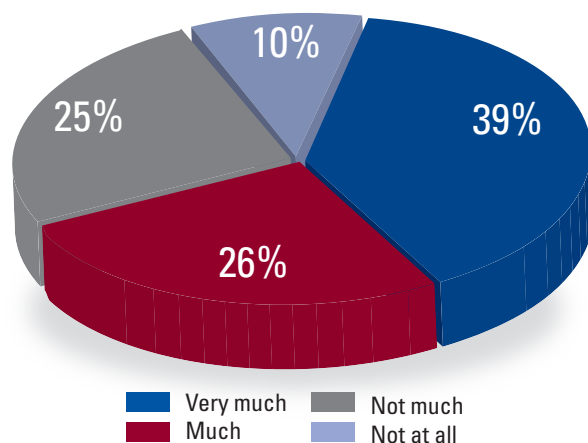
More than half of all nurses stuck by contaminated needles

Over the course of their career, 55% of U.S. nurses have had a needlestick injury from needles contaminated by blood or body fluids. More than one-quarter of nurses nationwide (26%) report being stuck by a contaminated needle multiple times. 81% of nurses working in facilities where safety syringes are used in most departments have not been injured on the job.



Health and safety concerns

The overwhelming majority of U.S. nurses (90%) say health and safety concerns influence their decision about the work they do and their continued practice in the field. When asked, nurses say:



About the survey

Conducted in April, the 2007 Study of Injectable Medication Errors is based on an online, nationwide survey of U.S. nurses. Of the 1039 participants, 22% of those surveyed have been a nurse one to five years; 12% have been nurses for six to ten years; 15% have been nurses for 11 to 15 years; and 51% have been nurses for more than 15 years. 94% of respondents were female and 6% were male. The survey's margin of error is plus or minus 3%. The research was conducted by Atlanta-based Arketi Group and sponsored by American Nurses Association (ANA) and Inviro Medical Devices. For more information, visit www.nursingworld.org.