



## Accreditation: ROP of the Week

### Required Organizational Practice: Narcotics Safety

#### WHAT IS NARCOTICS SAFETY?

- The availability of narcotic products is evaluated and limited to ensure that formats with potential to cause patient safety incidents are not stocked in patient service areas.
- **High dose format narcotics include:**
  - **Fentanyl** greater than 100 mcg per vial
  - **Hydromorphone** greater than 2 mg per vial
  - **Morphine** greater than 15 mg per vial in adult care areas and 2 mg per vial in pediatric care areas.

**Narcotics are high-alert medications which have an increased risk of causing significant patient harm if they are used incorrectly**

#### AT HEALTH PEI:

- There is a provincial ***Narcotics and Controlled Drug Policy*** that is currently in development.
- The current ***High-Dose Format Narcotic Policy*** is being incorporated into the ***High-Alert Medications Policy***.
- Specific narcotics that require an independent double check are identified and outlined in the ***Independent Double Check for High-Alert Medications Policy***.
- **Audits of high dose format narcotics** in patient services areas and pharmacy departments are conducted on a regular basis.
- Audit results are **reviewed by the Medication Management Quality Improvement Team** with recommendations being identified and implemented as needed.

#### Questions Accreditation Canada Surveyors May Ask Staff:

**Are any high dose format narcotics stocked on your unit? If so, what is the specific reason for having them available in your area?**

**How do you access additional information if needed to help safe administration of narcotics?**

**What safeguards are in place on your unit to minimize the risk of narcotic administration incidents?**