

Benefits of barcode technology

Speed saves time, safety saves lives

In England 237 million mistakes occur at some point during the medication process. In care homes more than 92% of errors occur in the medication administration process. By embracing Omnicell eMAR and our patient specific barcode technology, care homes can significantly reduce these medication error figures and improve patient safety. The barcode scanning technology significantly reduces the risk of medication errors and ensures the right dose of the right medication is given to the right person at the right time, every time.

Not only will the barcoding technology increase patient safety, but it has also proven to make the check-in process more efficient with time savings of up to 50% - time that can be returned back into face-to-face patient care.

Omnice ll eMAR helps to make your home a safer place to work thanks to our patient specific barcode technology.

“The risk of human error during medication administration has been taken away since implementing Omnicell eMAR. For example, there is no longer the risk of overdosing patients as the system prompts you and tells you exactly when the resident had that last dose of medication. There has also been no incidents of missed medication errors since implementing the system.”

Claire Buckle, Manager at Coach House Care Home has realised the significant reduction in medication errors since implementing Omnicell eMAR.



There is no additional cost for our patient specific barcode technology - it's included with every Omnicell eMAR device.

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Some common scenarios of care staff administering medications to residents in a home and how by using the barcode scanning system led them to avoid fatal medication errors and outcomes.

Scenario 1



Carer X administering meds to resident A is interrupted during the round and Carer Y takes over.



Carer Y picks up a box of the residents medication (one that Carer X already gave) and scans the patient specific barcode.



An on screen notification warns Carer Y that the medication was administered already and prevents them from going ahead.



Without the barcode scan system, Carer Y could have caused an overdose.

Scenario 2



Carer X is preparing medication for multiple residents in the homes lounge area. It's the breakfast round which is the busiest round of the day as well as the round where residents have the majority of their prescribed medications, so there are a lot of boxes to organize.



Carer X carries what they believe to be resident A's boxes over to resident A's side table, not realizing that Carer X accidentally picked up one box that belonged to resident B.



On scanning the patient specific barcode, the system tells Carer X that the medication doesn't belong to resident A.



Without the barcode scan system, Carer X could have caused a fatal safety risk.

Scenario 3



Every morning Resident A is administered 5mg of Ramipril and Resident B is administered 20mg of Lisinopril.



Both medications are in the **exact same packaging** and the only difference is the medication name stated on the box.



Carer X is administering meds to Resident A and picks up the Lisinopril box instead of Ramipril box and scans the barcode.



An on screen notification warns Carer X that this medication isn't required for Resident A.



Without the barcode scan system, Carer X could have caused a fatal safety risk.

Speak to our team of experts to find out more by emailing UKMASales@omnicell.com or calling 0161 413 5333.