

Incident 12/11/2016 re Missing Controlled Drugs

Identified on 12/11/2016 at 0630, 5 Fentanyl 12mcg patches missing from stock belonging to Resident Berenice MUNRO. Count had been correct on 11/11/2016 – undertaken by RN and EN at 0630 on that day.

DON notified and full DD count and environmental audit completed. Missing drugs unable to be located. DON attended BAC and conducted another full drug count and audit.

QPS notified – QP1602118242.

Noted: BAC DD safe key currently housed in key safe located adjacent to DD safe in Level 1 Nurses Station. According to BAC policy, only RNs have the code to this key safe. Code was changed recently.

Action Taken:

- Key safe code changed and RNs notified
 - Email sent to RNs requesting further information regarding missing drugs – ie, if they are in your possession return them, if you have suspicions discuss with DON.
- Purchase of DD trolley to safely manage DD and warfarin rounds – implementation of procedure and additional equipment for this trolley.
- Review of current workforce structure identified that minimal RN coverage is available on afternoon shift – rostering strategy to improve safety and workload management issues for RN after hours.
- Change to key management strategy:
 - DD safe key to remain on RN keys at all times
 - All RN keys to remain in key safe apart from key set containing DD safe key. This key set to be physically handed over to oncoming shift to minimise risk of unauthorised access to DD safe key.

QPS representatives attended the Home on 14/11/2016 and conducted an interview with DON. Also reviewed physical location of DD safe and rosters of staff over the period identified. QPS advice included all existing strategies to manage risk and to install CCTV/security cameras in area to monitor staff behaviour.

As at 21/11/2016, the missing drugs had not been returned and investigation within BAC had been unsuccessful. It is anticipated that the strategies implemented will mitigate some risk associated with this type of incident.

Kelly Smith, Director of Nursing

21st November 2016