



The Pre-Hospital Healthcare Team
for
Saginaw and Tuscola Counties

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MEMORANDUM #2011-8

FOR ALL SVMCA PHARMACIES AND EMS AGENCIES

***** MEDICATION ALERT *****

FROM: SVMCA Pharmacy and Therapeutics Chairperson

SUBJECT: **Dopamine Concentration Error**

The SVMCA was notified by one of the participating hospital pharmacies that during the June 24th recertification expiring dopamine 400mg vials were inadvertently replaced with 200mg vials.

Therefore, there is a potential that a patient may receive half the normal amount of dopamine intended during an infusion.

The box numbers suspected of containing the 200mg dopamine are: 4, 6, 9, 12, 19, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 49, 51, & 56. (*These numbers are current as of noon on 06/29/11*)

FOR ALL SVMCA PHARMACIES:

When restocking any SVMCA EMS boxes, ensure that the concentration for the dopamine is correct at 400mg/5ml.

FOR SVMCA ALS PROVIDERS

As always, ensure that the *5 Rights* of medication administration are followed for every patient:

1. Right Patient
2. Right Route
3. Right Dose
4. Right Time
5. Right Medication

If a 200mg vial of dopamine is found in the box, it is still usable. However, it will take two (2) vials of 200mg dopamine added to 250ml of D₅W to achieve the standard concentration of 1600mcg/ml.

When opening and using a box, please check the dopamine to ensure that it is the correct amount. Report any discrepancy to the pharmacy when turning the box in for restock.

Terrence Lee Wernette, RPH
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