



Patient Security System Newsletter

HUGS—PEDZ—PASSPORT

Volume 5—Issue 11— November 2017



Expectations!

Cargo shorts resting at my ankles. A light breeze brushing past my bare legs. My face, hot. My mouth, dry. "Maybe nobody noticed..." I thought. A futile effort to ease my damaged pride. One by one, my classmates ceased the play which occupied their recess to witness my shame. Blank stares, wide eyes, and snickering all surrounded me. The entire third grade class at Simi Elementary now knew: Kyle Jones wears Power Rangers underwear.

That morning before school, I EXPECTED those beige shorts with the stylish cargo side pocket to fit me like they always did. If I had taken the time to INSPECT that pair of shorts I would've known, they weren't mine at all. Instead, I had the shorts of my older, and two pant sizes bigger, brother. A detail I missed as I rushed out the door to meet my ride to school.

If we EXPECT a desired outcome, but fail to INSPECT the essential elements to reach that outcome, we leave the result to chance and there is no ground for EXPECTATION at all.

I bet there are things you expect from your team, but know would never get

done or get done right if it wasn't regularly checked.

The CHALLENGE

INSPECTING versus just EXPECTING is a practice essential to the proper use of your Patient Security System. Proper tag application is the one of the most important and easiest things to INSPECT.

Inspecting Tag Fit

A Patient Security Tag, when applied improperly, produces a poor fit, and a poor fitting tag can lead to the compromised safety of your patient and a possible unwelcome interruption to your already busy day in the form of an alarm or even a possible attempted abduction.

If you are using Hugs Tags that utilize the Baby Sense feature, a poor fitting tag means Check Tag Tightness Events, Tag Loose Alarms, and the vulnerability of your patient. If your team uses Passport or Pedz tags, a loose fit runs the risk of the tag slipping off or being taken off easily, perhaps without alarming.

So, what should we INSPECT to avoid such risks? For the Hugs tag, ask if the tag fits on your patient so that it "Wiggles, but does not Rotate." For the Pedz and Passport tags, they should fit "snug enough to prevent the tag from being slipped off the hand/heel." Also,

your team should be assessing that tag at least twice during their shift? Are there procedures for recording those periodic assessments?

As you start to identify areas for improvement, work with your staff to ensure they are educated about the tag's proper fit. Remember, these are areas of improvement, not necessarily grounds for discipline. Positively build up your staff, showing them the proper application and assessment of the Patient Security Tag.

By investing the time and effort to INSPECT your team's use of the system, you're helping to avoid the compromised safety of your patients and those unneeded, frustrating situations.

In our training sessions we often quote Betty, a Nurse Manager from Ohio, who said to her staff, "Now ladies, don't be offended when, after you've applied the tag, I stop by to check your application."

Betty knows her team will do what she INSPECTS not just what she EXPECTS. Because of Betty's efforts and investment to INSPECT, her unit's Alarm Report is immaculate.

If we fail to INSPECT, the only thing we can EXPECT is unmet expectations.

Written by: Kyle Jones, IMS Trainer

Bathinet— A cart solution for bedside immersion bathing

Growth in practice of evidence-based, delayed bedside immersion bathing leads to requests for a suitable cart. [AWHONN](#) and hospitals independently have researched and documented numerous health and emotional benefits. According to an [article in the Chicago Tribune](#), there are amazing medical benefits...significant improvement in statistics of hypoglycemia, hypothermia, breastfeeding and family bonding. As rooming-in principles are increasingly implemented, traditional nursery rooms are being repurposed, creating needs for specialty carts to transport equipment and support services from room to room. IMS remains at the forefront, developing cart solutions for changing work flow needs. The "Bathinet" has made in-room infant bathing a win-win for staff, infants and families.

