

PROS & CONS OF RFID TECHNOLOGY

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The speaker has no conflict of interest to disclose.



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Learning Objectives — Pharmacists and Technicians

1. Explain the benefits and challenges of using RFID technology when filling OR trays
2. List other areas within the pharmacy that can benefit from RFID technology



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Session overview

- What is RFID Technology?
- RFID in real time
- RFID to reduce labor costs
- RFID for inventory management
- RFID to reduce human error



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WHAT IS RFID TECHNOLOGY?



* RFID abbreviated for: **R**adio **F**requency **I**dentification

* Purpose: to help identify a person, object or animal that has been tagged with a smart label.

3 Components for RFID Technology

- * Smart Label: Stores all the information
- * Antenna: Helps communicate
- * RFID Reader (interrogator): helps transmit information to a computer system



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RFID in Real Time

(track and tracing)

Pros -

Time efficiency: Cuts down time when filling or verifying a tray or a kit.

Real time data: Gives the benefit of providing data about recalls, drug usage, expires, etc in real time.

Cons-

Time consuming: If a new medication has not been previously used or added to the inventory, it has to be added manually in order for the drug or item to be identified.



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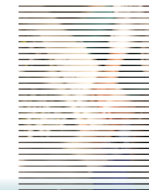
RFID to Reduce Labor Costs

Pros-

A process that required multiple people can now be completed can now be done within a matter of minutes

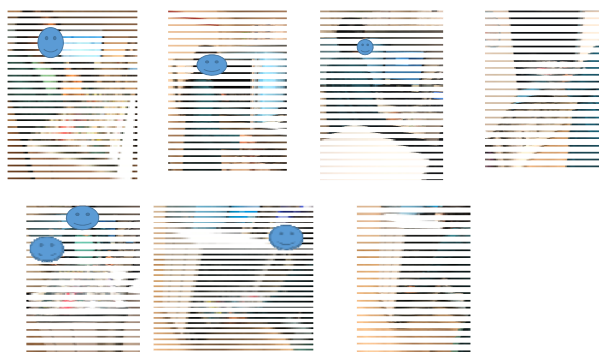
Example: A pharmacist can be freed for other clinical needs

Cons- it takes people to tag the item or purchase more expensive pre-tagged medication.



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RFID to Reduce Labor Costs



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RFID for Inventory Management

Exact data in the smart label

Pros -

Reduces the amount of waste and helps identify the problem; helps to the contribution of identifying par levels, fast movers, expired reports, etc.

Cons-

*Labels are expensive

*Interference problems

*No way to track damaged labels



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RFID to Reduce Human Error

Pros-

Missing and expired meds will be identified when processing an OR tray or kit.

Ex./ Even if an item is missed during filling process the reader will pick up the missing or expired medications

Cons-

Damaged label will not read.

Used items will still scan



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What are the benefits of up to date data?

- A. Provides real time data
- B. No benefits
- C. I do not remember

What is a CON to reducing labor costs?

- A. Purchase higher cost pre-tagged medications
- B. Pharmacist gets to focus on other clinical needs

What are three components of RFID technology?

- A. Smart label, antenna, RFID reader
- B. Ondansetron, label, antenna
- C. Drug, computer software, label

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