

NORTHWEST
TELEPHARMACY+
Solutions

July 2015

Mission Statement: To be the leading comprehensive pharmacy services provider to Canadians and health care related institutions in under-served markets and times, utilizing innovative technologies.

Smart Infusion Pumps:

Many medications, fluids, and nutrients need to be administered at precisely controlled rates to patients via infusion pumps in the healthcare setting. Over the years, 'smart' infusion pumps have been introduced in healthcare settings to reduce medication administration errors. These 'smart' infusion pumps are equipped with software allowing each healthcare site to create drug libraries which help nurses with programming and calculating dose and delivery rates.

Since the drug library is custom built, considerable time needs to be dedicated to the building of the library so that appropriate 'hard' and 'soft' stops for high-alert medications are programmed correctly.

In 2014, ISMP Canada made a call to action for hospitals to prioritize capital purchase of infusion pumps with 'smart' technology and program drug libraries with 'hard' stops for high alert medications among many of their recommendations.

NorthWest's Smart Infusion Pump Implementation:

In April 2015, one of our NWTS pharmacists was informed that her hospital site was going to implement 'smart' infusion pumps, with a planned go-live date of mid-June 2015. The site requested that the pharmacist be the primary point of contact for the drug library build. With a planned go-live date only weeks away, the pharmacist was able to secure some additional administrative time to dedicate to this project.

The kickoff meeting was mid-April, and during the month of May the pharmacist built a drug library for the site, which included 4 distinct care areas (Emergency, Medicine, CCC/Rehab and Oncology) and almost 200 drugs. An initial drug library review was conducted in late May, and the final drug library review was June 9th. The go-live occurred on time in mid-June.

.Let one of NorthWest's experienced pharmacists help your institution with smart infusion pump implementation.

North West Telepharmacy: Your Hospital's Pharmacy Solution:

North West Telepharmacy Solutions understands patient safety is number one priority for healthcare. That explains why we don't stop working at 4 pm. We offer 24/7 Around-the-clock pharmacist medication order review and after-hours On Call Service. Consider having NWTS work with your Hospital Pharmacy to develop a workload measurement tool!

For more information on adding our services to your hospital, visit our website at www.northwesttelepharmacy.ca or contact:



Sammu Dhaliwall, RPh, ACPR, Pharm D
Clinical Pharmacist & Business Development Manager
sdhaliwall@northwest.ca
613-482-7098



Kevin McDonald
Director of Hospital Telepharmacy
kmcdonald@northwest.ca
613-733-7117 option 5

North West Telepharmacist Feature: Introducing Christina Adams



Christina Adams completed a BSc in Biochemistry from the University of Waterloo in 2002, followed by a BSc Pharmacy from the University of Toronto in 2006. She completed her residency at Kingston General Hospital in 2007. From January 2012 to April 2013, Christina was enrolled in the Pharmacy Leadership Academy program through the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists.

Christina has worked for NWTS since 2008 and now works fulltime with several hospitals in rural Ontario. She has started up many new hospital sites for NWTS, and has implemented several new programs and services at her sites, including antimicrobial stewardship, smart pumps and CIVA.

Christina has been actively involved with the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists throughout her entire career, beginning as a second year student. Currently, she is National Board Member, representing Ontario Branch, and is also the co-chair for the Host Committee of the final Summer Educational Sessions being held in August.

In her downtime, Christina has a small business sewing baby accessories, and is also an avid quilter. She shares her home with her husband, her one-year-old daughter and their pets.

