

Sweeny Community Hospital Implements Alaris Smart Pump Technology

Sweeny Community Hospital is pleased to announce the purchase and hospital-wide adoption of the Alaris Smart IV Pump System. This cutting edge technology will replace our current IV pumps, as well as give staff more access to infusion devices. These smart IV pumps act as an “assistant” to nurses and clinicians that administer IV medications at the point of care. As a health-care provider enters medication information into an Alaris® System, the Guardrails® software accesses the hospital’s drug library and compares the order against a preset standard for minimum and maximum doses. Anything above or below the pre-established limits will result in a alert to the nursing and medical staff, which must be resolved in order to give the medication to the patient.

“With all the tasks our caregivers have on a daily basis, having another ‘set of eyes’ in the form of these new IV Pumps at the patient’s bedside is a tremendous help to nursing and EMS staff.” said Sherri Pierce, Chief Nursing Officer of Sweeny Community Hospital.

The health-care industry has put new emphasis on revising patient safety programs to prevent medication errors and reduce length of hospital stay. This can be attributed in part to recently published research findings examining the issue of medication safety. Last year, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released a report that estimated that 1.5 million preventable adverse drug events (ADEs) occur in the U.S. each year. These errors cause unnecessary harm and cost an estimated \$3.5 billion annually to treat. Of the most serious potential ADEs, 61 percent are IV-related. CareFusion’s Alaris® medication safety products are designed to prevent infusion administration errors at the point of care to protect the health and safety of the patient receiving the medication. Sweeny Community Hospital’s new smart pump technology will help prevent infusion administration errors at the point of care to protect the health and safety of the patient receiving IV medications and better serve the West Brazos Community.