

SI Pharmacy Technician - Full Discipline Demo

Drug Dispensing Systems

Final Report - Answer Guide

Institution	Science Interactive University
Session	SI Pharmacy Technician - Full Discipline Demo
Course	SI Pharmacy Technician - Full Discipline Demo
Instructor	Sales SI Demo

Test Your Knowledge

Classify each statement below as referring to a hospital crash cart or automated dispensing system.

Hospital Crash Cart	Automated Dispensing System
1	2

⚡ Automatically puts out a refill request when a drug falls below PAR level.

⚡ Must be restocked to PAR levels after every use.

⚡ Provides computer-controlled storage, dispensing, and tracking of medications.

⚡ Specifically prepared for the event that a patient experiences respiratory or cardiac arrest.

Correct answers:

1

Specifically prepared for the event that a patient experiences respiratory or cardiac arrest.

Must be restocked to PAR levels after every use.

2

Provides computer-controlled storage, dispensing, and tracking of medications.

Automatically puts out a refill request when a drug falls below PAR level.

Exploration

It is common practice to remove a medication from a crash cart the day before it expires.

☐ True

☐ False



It is common practice to position the dispensers for similar drugs so that they are nonadjacent.

☒ True



☐ False

Exercise 1

Why do you need to record what items were added to the crash cart?

Why is it important to restock a crash cart with the drugs and other supplies in the same, fixed location?

In a hospital, what is another step you would need to take in restocking a crash cart that you did not take in this exercise?

Data Table 1: Crash Cart Checklist
(SAMPLE ANSWER BELOW)

PAR	Unit of Measure	Description	Quantity Added
Drawer 1			
10	EA	Cotton Swab	2
2	EA	IV Tubing	0
1	EA	Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	1

1	EA	Dopamine	0
2	EA	Epinephrine	0
2	EA	Lidocaine	1
Drawer 2			
12	EA	Sterile Lubricating Packet	3
1	EA	Endotracheal Tube 7 mm	1
1	EA	Endotracheal Tube 8 mm	0
1	EA	Intubating Stylet	1
8	EA	Wooden Tongue Depressor	0

Photo 1: Filled Drawer 1
(SAMPLE ANSWER BELOW)

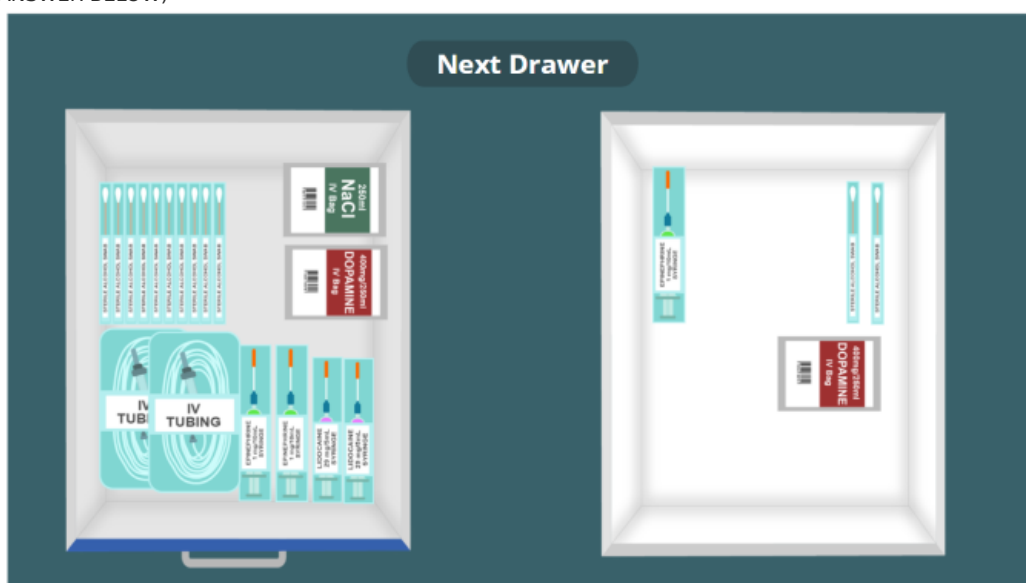
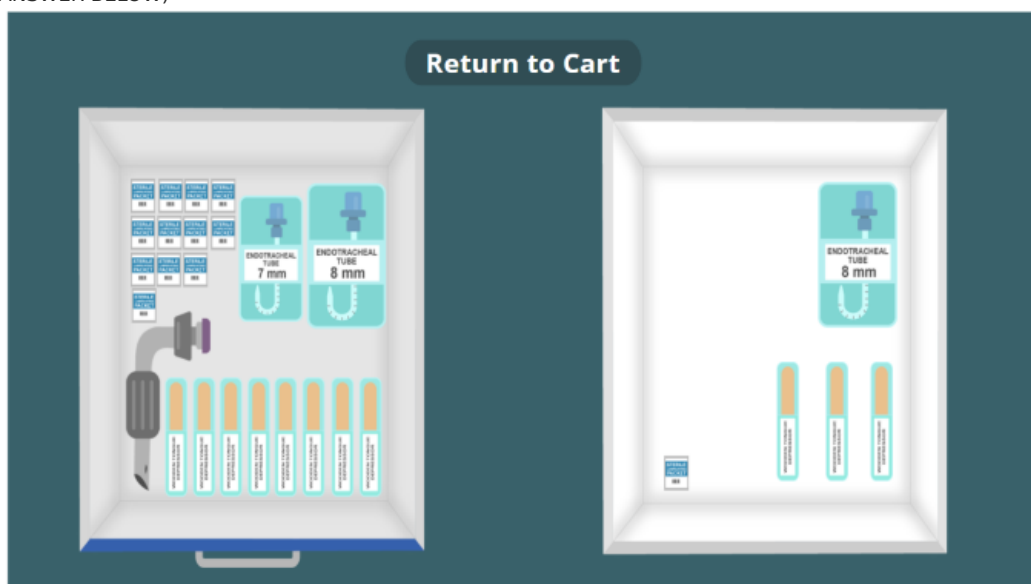


Photo 2: Filled Drawer 2
(SAMPLE ANSWER BELOW)



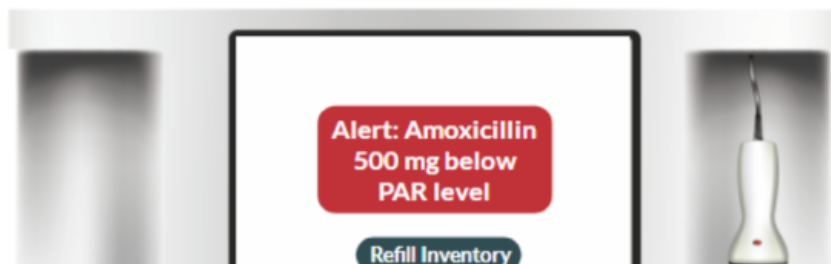
Exercise 2

What is the security measure used by the virtual automated drug dispensing system used in this exercise? What other security measures might an automated drug dispensing system in a hospital or pharmacy have?

What is the purpose of the barcodes on the prescriptions and drug bottles for use in an automated dispensing system?

What are three benefits to using an automated dispensing system? Are there any drawbacks?

Photo 3: Filled Prescription
(SAMPLE ANSWER BELOW)



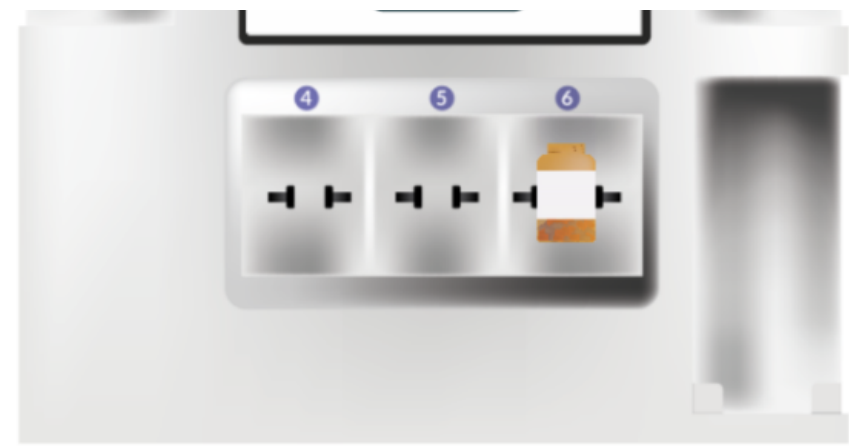
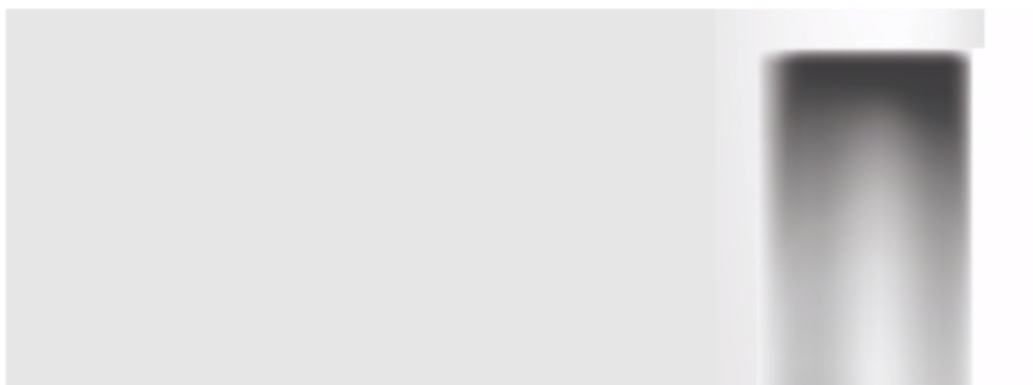
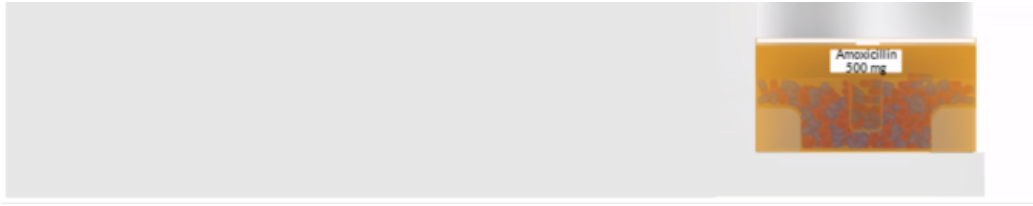


Photo 4: Refilled Canister
(SAMPLE ANSWER BELOW)





Competency Review

PAR levels are utilized in both crash carts and automated drug dispensing systems.

- ☒ True
- ☐ False



When the supply of a certain drug in an ADS falls below the established PAR level, the ADS will _____.

- ☒ put out a refill request ✓
 - ☐ automatically refill the drug
 - ☐ no longer be useful
 - ☐ none of the above
-

Automated dispensing systems contain drawers or trays that contain injectable (parenteral) drugs and other medical supplies such as IV tubing.

- ☐ True
 - ☒ False ✓
-

Which of the following is not a function of an ADS?

- ☐ Automatically track inventory
 - ☐ Provide security
 - ☐ Eliminating the need to record inventory by hand
 - ☒ Eliminating all potential drug errors ✓
-

When refilling a crash cart, it is best to refill each item a little above the PAR level.

- ☐ True
 - ☒ False ✓
-

Only certain items in a crash cart have a PAR level.

- ☐ True
 - ☒ False ✓
-

The barcode scanner on an automated dispensing system can be used both as a security measure, to import prescription information, and to track drug refills.

☒ True



☐ False

Automated dispensing systems put out a notification when a drug falls below PAR levels.

☒ True



☐ False

Extension Questions

When working in a hospital, crash carts from different floors/units will often be refilled by the same pharmacy technician. How important is it for the pharmacy technician to be informed of the specific floor/unit each crash cart originated from, and what could the consequences be if this information is inaccurate? (SAMPLE ANSWER BELOW)

It is very important to know which floor/unit a crash cart originated from as the contents of the drawers for each crash cart will vary depending on the floor/unit in which it is used. If the pharmacy technician is given the wrong information as to the floor/unit a crash cart is used on, they may restock it with the incorrect items or incorrect dosages, which could result in a severe error during a code.