

Patient Safety ALERT : Intra-venous products of similar appearance Baxter bags : metronidazole, glucose, saline

There has been a change to the purchasing contract for intravenous metronidazole.

The new metronidazole 500mg/100ml bags are manufactured by Baxter, which also supplies the Trust with other 100ml IV fluids, which although clearly labelled, look similar:



FOR ACTION

- ✓ **Make sure that staff are aware of similarity in appearance of 100ml metronidazole, saline and glucose bags.**
- ✓ **Make sure that metronidazole bags are stored with other intravenous medication**
- ✓ **Check your ward IV fluid stock; make sure that no metronidazole 100ml bags have been put with IV fluids, such as saline or glucose by mistake or vice versa**
- ✓ **Remind staff to read and follow the Trust Standard Operating Procedure for Administering Injectable Medicines; Section 6 covers checking procedures to follow before administering an injectable medicine**
- ✓ **Share this information with your ward team and ensure ALL STAFF are aware of the potential for error**

For more information, please contact joy.davey2@nhs.net