



Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Office régional de la santé de Winnipeg

Child Health Quality Team
AE102 Harry Medovy House
671 William Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3A 1R9
Ph: 204 / 787.1158
Fax: 204 / 787.4661

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Director of Nursing OR Director of Patient Services
CAPHC participating centre

Dear CAPHC colleagues:

Thank you all very much for taking the time to respond to our recent survey regarding patient identification systems. We had a tremendous response from right across the country. Of course, this would not have happened without Elaine Orrbine, who deserves our sincere appreciation!

Our concern arose from an occurrence in which an incorrect band was found on a patient. We believe that a loose band became trapped in an infant sleeper, survived through the laundry process, and was then placed on the next wearer's foot in the assumption that it was his own band. Thank goodness, the baby was positively identified immediately and no harm occurred.

As promised, now that the deadline for response has passed, we are sharing the results with you. It seems that many of you have had problems with loose bands; only CHEO seems to have found a way around this problem! We will be re-examining our own patient identification systems in light of what we have learnt from this occurrence and from your experience.

Once again, thank you!

Sincerely

Gerarda Cronin

Director, Quality and Decision Support, Child Health Program, WRHA