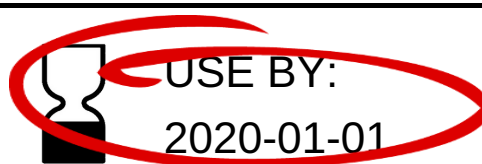




# How Your Medical Devices Can Tell You When They're About To Expire

CAT	123456
LOT	12345678



QTY: 1 EA

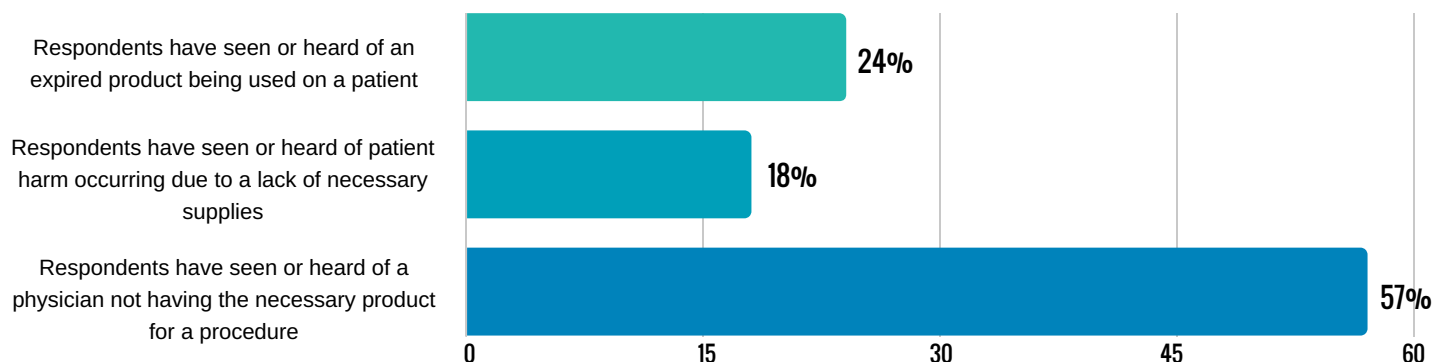
A survey conducted by Cardinal Health showed that 24% of hospital staff have seen or heard of an expired product being used on a patient during a procedure. This comes as no surprise, as we have witnessed the usage of expired inventory at hospitals first-hand. Without the proper processes and vigilance to prevent these “never events” from happening, this will continue to be a risk for hospitals.

While in many cases there may not be a true danger to patients from the use of an expired medical device – the expiration date may be based on the packaging integrity, not device integrity – hospitals are still putting themselves at risk of legal and regulatory trouble if this is not properly managed. Patients who later learn that an expired device was used during a procedure have ample grounds to file a lawsuit against the hospital.

There is also the financial risk of letting a device expire on the shelf. For items that are owned, you will be eating the cost of expiration and entering into a vicious cycle where slow-moving items expire on the shelf and are replaced with a new item, only to have that new item expire on the shelf again. We have seen this practice cost hospitals tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, especially for unique devices and sizes that need to be kept on the shelf just in case.

Without the right systems and processes for inventory management in place, hospitals will continue to put their business and their patients' safety on the line.

*Additional patient safety concerns for hospitals may result from poor inventory management practices. As the survey found:*



# Automated Expiration Management Workflow



Medical device approaches expiration

Expiration alert is generated by iRISupply software

Real-time alert is sent to your phone by iRISupply

Medical device is located by staff and used in a case prior to expiry or swapped with the vendor

## There's a better way: medical device automation

### Example of an Automated Expiration Lead-Time Email Alert

Mobile Aspects Expiration Lead Time Alert  
Jul 11 2017 3:10AM

S.No	ItemID	Catalog #	Lot #	Location	Expires	Lead Time(Days)
1	49972	10800703	MGPC290	CAB 2, SHELF 1	07/31/2017	19
2	57016	70-5160	TC04	CAB 5, SHELF 3	07/31/2017	19
3	57017	70-5160	TC04	CAB 5, SHELF 3	07/31/2017	19
4	57018	70-6160	TC04	CAB 5, SHELF 4	07/31/2017	19
5	57019	70-6160	TC04	CAB 5, SHELF 4	07/31/2017	19
6	52177	CRUOS106	GFZF2409	CAB 3, SHELF 2	07/31/2017	19
7	2640	CT2020	0000478460	CAB 1, SHELF 2	07/20/2017	8
8	2641	CT2020	0000478460	CAB 1, SHELF 2	07/20/2017	8
9	2643	CT2020	0000478460	CAB 1, SHELF 2	07/20/2017	8
10	2644	CT2020	0000478460	CAB 1, SHELF 2	07/20/2017	8
11	48452	G05576	5083302	CAB 2, SHELF 3	07/31/2017	19
12	48453	G05576	5083302	CAB 2, SHELF 3	07/31/2017	19
13	62182	G38480	C1273231	CAB 4, SHELF 2	07/12/2017	1
14	54475	GM1833	150819	CAB 3, SHELF 3	07/31/2017	19
15	54031	GR3506	150817	CAB 4, SHELF 1	07/31/2017	19

Most hospital employees have witnessed or heard of a patient safety issue from poor inventory controls. Systems such as iRISupply have been introduced in recent years to help clinical staff manage expirations of their medical devices using RFID technology. This Internet of Things (IOT) approach reduces the amount of time needed to manage medical devices, and increases the operational efficiency of your department.

RFID technology allows hospitals to track expiration of medical devices at the item level. Alternative technologies like bar-code and push-button dispensers fail in this area because they can't track expiration down to the item level without the additional manual entry of the expiration date at the point of use. This burdensome step is often skipped, meaning that expiration levels are not kept up-to-date and accurately tracked – and the busier the area, the less likely staff will be to complete this manual step.

Because RFID technology can track expiration down to the item level, it enables your medical devices to alert you when they are about to expire. Using intelligent analytics and customizable filters, a daily report will be delivered to your inbox that includes the list of all expiring or expired medical devices in your area. A manual task that used to take hours each week is reduced to minutes because you know exactly which items to remove and their exact location.

Depending on your relationships with your device vendors and reps, you may be able to get a credit for the return of an expiring/expired item, or they may offer an exchange of a newer item for returning an item about to expire. Taking this step can allow a hospital department to realize a return on their investment from a system like iRISupply, and realize the many other benefits that come with medical device automation in the process.