

# A NEW ERA OF PHARMACEUTICAL INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

PAY-PER-USE MEDICATION INVENTORY MANAGEMENT THAT DELIVERS
99.99% ACCURACY AND REAL-TIME RE-STOCK CAPABILITIES

# THE PROBLEM

Hospitals have become keenly aware of the potential failure points in the critical drug supply chain, some of which can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, but much of which has been inherent for some time. Also at the mercy of these supply chain challenges are pharmaceutical distributors. Unfortunately, in some cases, these suppliers have lost the trust of their customers due the difficulties they have faced delivering critical life-saving medications within the current healthcare supply chain.

Sadly, these supply chain weaknesses are not just inconvenient for nurses and pharmacists—they can have dire consequences under the wrong conditions and threaten proper patient care. When hospital clinicians are diverted away from managing patients to managing inventory, and when necessary medications are not reliably available, patient safety becomes a concern. Now more than ever, it is critical that pharmaceutical distributors implement solutions and technologies to provide their customers with confidence around the critical drug supply chain and alleviate these medication management challenges.



# INSIDE HOSPITALS, THE INDIVIDUALS WHO MANAGE HIGH-VALUE AND SPECIALTY MEDICATIONS ARE FACING KEY CHALLENGES WHICH INCLUDE:

- + LIMITED KNOWLEDGE OF MEDICATION INVENTORY USAGE, CURRENT INVENTORY LEVELS, AND MEDICATION INVENTORY RESTOCK NEEDS.
- + EXPENDING EXCESS LABOR BY MANUALLY TRACKING AND MONITORING MEDICATION USAGE AND CHARGES.
- + PROTECTING THEIR FACILITY AGAINST THE POTENTIAL FOR DIVERSION EVENTS.
- + EXCESS SPENDING ON WASTED PRODUCT DUE TO EXPIRATION.

# **A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION**

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID\*), is being utilized in many products and solutions to improve the medication management process, alleviate healthcare provider challenges, and reestablish trust in pharmaceutical distributors and the critical drug supply chain. One product provider, IntelliGuard Intelligent Inventory Solutions®, has introduced a supply chain solution which combines the power and benefits of RFID with medication suppliers to produce a unique consignment solution. This solution has delivered groundbreaking results for both hospitals and pharmaceutical distributors.

IntelliGuard specializes in a consignment medication inventory model called IntelliGuard Vendor Managed Inventory. To execute this model, IntelliGuard partners with the most vital pharmaceutical distributors across the country to support their medication distribution practices. Pharmaceutical distributors analyze their customer's inventory requirements, manage and own the inventory until it's dispensed from a smart cabinet. Then, the inventory is replenished and the facility is invoiced. It's that simple.

At the cornerstone of IntelliGuard Vendor Managed Inventory System is its line of RFID-enabled Smart Cabinets. These cabinets are access controlled to securely store and accurately track every single product placed inside of them, ensuring they are easily replenished by pharmaceutical distributors as needed. IntelliGuard's technology goes beyond storing medications for access by also providing temperature monitoring, real-time data, trends, and 24/7 system alerts.

#### **REAL-TIME INVENTORY ACCURACY**

IntelliGuard's Vendor Managed Inventory solution can be quickly and easily rolled out at any hospital or healthcare facility. Once an IntelliGuard Smart Cabinet is place on-site the pharmaceutical distributor receives instantaneous updates any time an item is removed. In addition to receiving updates on inventory levels, IntelliGuard's system also provides replenishment and stocking recommendations, temperature monitoring and alerting, and reporting capabilities.

These features enable pharmaceutical distributors to optimize their clients' inventory supply chains, which means no more manual counting or scanning and no more phone calls regarding expired items or stock outs. Most importantly, this means that hospitals will always have the life-saving medications they need on hand, when they need them. With the implementation of RFID-powered technology from IntelliGuard, manual processes, concerns around inventory accuracy and usage, and the need for a pharmaceutical distributor rep to re-stock on-site have all been eliminated.



# **GROUNDBREAKING RESULTS**

IntelliGuard Vendor Managed Inventory improves inventory accuracy and helps to ensure patient safety and positive outcomes. The system provides reliable data while reducing manual processes for healthcare providers and taking significant labor out of the pharmaceutical supply chain. The automation built into IntelliGuard's RFID-enabled Smart Cabinets ensures that healthcare providers face no disruption to their standard workflows, hospitals will always have access to their critical inventory, and that inventory will always be auto replenished.

IntelliGuard's consignment partners track on average 102,000 critical and high-value medications per year using the technology





INTELLIGUARD VENDOR
MANAGED INVENTORY
SOLUTION ENSURES CLINICIAN
SATISFACTION AND
TOP-OF-THE-LINE SECURITY
FOR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES
VIA THE FOLLOWING UNIQUE
FUNCTIONALITY AND FEATURES:

- SECURE ACCESS ENABLES PHARMACEUTICAL DISTRIBUTORS TO TRACK INVENTORY USAGE TO A SPECIFIC CLINICIAN.
- + PAY-PER-USE MEDICATION INVENTORY MANAGEMENT ENABLES FACILITIES TO OPTIMIZE SPEND AND REDUCE TIME SPENT RECONCILING INVENTORY.
- + BOTH HOSPITALS AND DISTRIBUTORS RECEIVE WARNINGS FOR MEDICATIONS THAT ARE SOON TO EXPIRE, REDUCING WASTE AND INCREASING COMPLIANCE.
- + THE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATES SEAMLESSLY WITH HOSPITAL WORKFLOWS. CARE PROVIDERS SIMPLY OPEN THE CABINET DOOR, TAKE WHAT THEY NEED, THEN CLOSE THE DOOR.

### **VENDOR MANAGED INVENTORY WORKFLOW**



PLACE VENDOR MANAGED SMART CABINETS AT CLIENT LOCATIONS



LOAD, REMOVE OR RESTOCK ITEMS (SECURE BADGE LOG-IN OPTIONAL)



CLOSE THE CABINET DOOR



VIEW REAL-TIME INVENTORY VIA WEB PORTAL



# **SOLVING KEY CHALLENGES**

Utilizing the IntelliGuard Vendor Managed Inventory solution, individuals managing high-value and specialty medications are experiencing resolution to their previous key challenges and gaining the following benefits:

- + A proven 99.99% level of inventory accuracy which delivers real-time visibility into inventory levels and usage.
- + Improved staff efficiency and effectiveness due to less time spent manually tracking and reconciling inventory.
- + Increase security delivered by cabinet features such as locking access and opaque glass doors.
- + Effective expiration monitoring, reducing inventory waste.







# PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

IntelliGuard's Vendor Managed Inventory solution has been proven to not only solve medication supply chain challenges, but also to add increased value and security, while freeing up time and capital. However, the advantages of implementing IntelliGuard Smart Cabinets for consignment programs go beyond convenience or even improved financial outcomes. As hospital supply chain systems become increasingly complex and interdependent with a global economy and technology, identifying shortfalls becomes critical to prevent interruptions to patient care. By providing real-time information on medication usage and inventory, as well as warnings on potential supply chain disruptions. IntelliGuard's technology allows their distributor partners to manage their consignment programs and enables communication and issue resolution to occur between all the stakeholders.

To learn more or talk to one of our specialty pharmaceutical distribution partners, contact IntelliGuard at **760.448.9500** or email **Sales@IG.Solutions** 

\*Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) is the wireless use of electromagnetic fields to read and capture information stored on a tag attached to an object.
\*\* RFID in Pharmacy Management with an Intelliguard RFID Solution for Critical Inventory. A Case Study at Sharp Memorial Hospital.



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