



2012 – BEACON – Covidien Seminar #4



Harry Sauberman P.E.

Issues that need to be Addressed and Recommendations to Assure the Reliability of Wireless Communication Systems for Patients in Health Care or External Environments

Presented by: Harry Sauberman, P.E., Retired Senior Engineer and Senior Advisor in FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health

Wireless technology can offer many benefits to the medical environment, allowing health care professionals to inter-actively connect to each other, to their patients and to their system networks. Wireless transmissions provide increased flexibility for high speed data connections to local or external terminals, to various devices including patient devices, to the Internet and smart phones. Wireless sensors implanted inside a patient's body or on the surface can monitor vital physiological data and can report the findings to health care professionals in real-time. The technology to accomplish these goals employs radio frequency transmissions instead of hard wire connections. Health care data can be sent, interpreted and received within the framework of a network whose operational parameters are prescribed by a wireless protocol. The parameters are performance based and may adhere to recognized consensus standards. Wireless transmissions, however, like any other form of communications, can be compromised. To best assure their reliability, the networks need to be examined and evaluated with respect to their operational performance. This presentation will discuss the issues that govern the reliability of wireless patient care networks. Recommendations will be given for ensuring that these networks and their associated data systems are available to support patients in health care facilities and in external environments. The recommendations are intended to provide system operators with a level of confidence, based on design parameters and the ability to evaluate and measure reliability outcomes. This assurance will enable improvements in patient care, reductions in medical errors and a corresponding increase in patient safety. New generations of wireless systems, with different architectures and complexities, are being integrated into the medical environment. Patients moving within this environment, having life-threatening and/or lesser events, will be the beneficiaries of a reliable wireless system.

Wednesday, November 7, 2012
Networking Reception 5:30-6:30 PM Presentation 6:30-7:30 PM
Covidien, 60 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT
Directions and parking information will be sent with each RSVP.

NO CHARGE TO ATTEND, BUT RSVP REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 2 – No Exceptions!!

RSVP to: 860-547-1995 or toll free: 877-723-2266

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