# Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care logoNational Standard for User-applied Labelling of Injectable Medicines, Fluids and Lines

## Perioperative sterile field

To identify contents of containers (syringes and hollowware) on the sterile field in the operating room use:

labels preprinted with medicine/fluid name and concentration OR

a generic closed-practice environment label with medicine and concentration prompts.

| Type of label | Example label | Instructions |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Preprinted closed-practice label | Example of a preprinted label sheet produced to service a perioperative sterile field  An example preprinted label sheet, with several different label types. The top row includes example labels for chlorhexadine alcoholic 0.5%, povidone-iodine aqueous 5%, paraffin liquid, and sodium chloride 0.9%, and all have black writing on a white background with a red cross, and are for non-injectable fluids. The next five rows are all for injectable medicines, and include sample labels for sodium chloride for injection 0.9%, generic medicine labels, heparin and morphine. | Use individual labels, a sheet of labels for a perioperative suite, or a sheet of labels for a specific operating procedure.  Preprinted labels include full generic names (except contrast media).  Colour coding to follow International Standard ISO 26825:2008.  Concentration optional except for adrenaline when used as single medicine.  Concentration may be preprinted or completed at the time of preparation in the space provided with a sterile marker pen. |
| Generic closed-practice environment label | Generic medicine label - black text on white background with space to write the medicine and concentration (units/mL). | Use the generic closed-practice environment labels when preprinted labels are not available (requires a sterile marker pen). |
| All closed-practice environment container labels | No example | Adhesive must ensure the label remains attached to the container for the procedure duration.  Adhesive must allow the label to be completely removed after the procedure when using reusable hollowware containers.  Apply away from the pouring spout and avoid graduations. |

To be read in conjunction with the National Standard for User-applied Labelling of Injectable Medicines, Fluids and Lines, 2015.

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