

# SUPPLY CHAIN NEWS

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## Healthcare Supply Chain Issues

There continue to be many medical and surgical product issues that are either backordered due to production delays, staff shortages and/or raw material availability. UTMIC Purchasing and inventory control are working daily to identify alternative products to help bridge the gap until original items return to healthy stock levels.

We are creating this communication tool to help populate the necessary information regarding substitute products and general industry information for knowledge and understanding as to these shortages and delays.

Please share with all members of you units/departments that may be impacted by these issues.

We will plan to produce this document bi-weekly with necessary updates until such time the supply chain issues adequately subside.

Your Supply Chain Team

## National Blood Tube Shortage

The Covid-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges in keeping pace with the volumes and types of tests needed.

Some of the additional compounding factors are the global and domestic logistic issues, labor shortages, equipment shortages, 3<sup>rd</sup> party sterilization plants having slower than anticipated return of sterilized blood collection tubes.



BD is our lab blood tube supplier. All hospitals have been put on allocation and availability has been declining over the last several weeks which has caused UTMIC to enact conservation strategies such as pulling back all blood tube inventory and having it centrally managed by the Lab department and decreasing the amount of blood tubes kept in each PAR location.

BD is estimating the current blood tube shortage will go well into the first quarter of 2022.

Heather Byrd and the lab team are keeping a close eye on all blood tubes and quantities and are working with purchasing to secure additional tubes as they become available.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Pain Clinic Par location is converting to BLUE BIN week of October 11, 2021**

**Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out.**

- Roberta Collier

# SUBSTITUTIONS

As purchasing identifies alternative items (substitutes), we seek clinical approval to ensure the sub items are appropriate for patient use and will not hinder quality of care. SUB items will be listed in this section. If there are any questions regarding a substitute item, you can email [Jennifer.pastorek@utoledo.edu](mailto:Jennifer.pastorek@utoledo.edu)

Substitute items can be for any length of time (30 days to many months) depending on nature of the supply problem.

We will cycle through any approved inventory of subs before returning to original supply item.

## Water Pitchers

Existing LAWSON SKU: 2111  
SUB SKU: 90778

Clinical Difference: 32 oz vs. 28 oz

You may see a few pitchers circulating that have NO foam sleeve. We injected a 3<sup>rd</sup> alternative due to shipping delays in obtaining the SUB item.

## Incentive Spirometer

Existing LAWSON SKU: 2284  
SUB SKU: same as existing

Clinical Difference: 5000 ml vs. 4000 ml

This is an ongoing manufacturing update/production delay (estimated July 2022 before original item will be back in stock)

## PPE UPDATE

In general, PPE (gowns, gloves, isolation masks, face shields and N95's) continue to be in stock at adequate levels.

The 2 current models of N95's that will be distributed are the 8200 (round) LAWSON SKU: 90588



And the 9205+ LAWSON SKU: 90600



Fit testing is required to wear N95's.

## ECG Patches (pk/5)

Existing LAWSON SKU: 54110  
SUB SKU: 90777

Clinical Differences: None

Packaging is different.

## Pleur-Evac Kit (Chest Drain System)

Existing LAWSON SKU: 25026  
SUB SKU: 90986

Clinical Differences:  
Attachment – original- 1 patient tube  
SUB – ATS connectors

## Suction Canisters:

Manufacturing delays and labor shortages are causing cannisters to experience delays in shipments. This will be a rolling recovery expected to last into Spring 2022



## Mepilex Border Heel Dressing

Existing LAWSON SKU: 89968  
SUB SKU: 90987

Current Product



Substitute Product



## Fluid Warming Sets

Existing LAWSON SKU: 1700  
SUB SKU: 90982

Main users: MICU, Anesthesiology  
and the ED

Clinical Differences:

Drip rate – original 150ml/min  
SUB 9000ml/hr

Flow control – original slide clamp  
SUB roller clamp



## FEDEX Delays

The local Perrysburg sorting facility is still experiencing staffing shortages which continues to backlog many of our inbound ground packages. We are seeing delays of up to a week or greater in some instances. I suggest if you are shipping something inbound to UTMC, that you either use UPS or Fedex Express as these deliveries appear to be arriving as scheduled.

## Foley Tray, 16 F Urinometer/Statlock

Existing LAWSON SKU: 88293  
SUB SKU: 90978

Original: BD A902416  
SURESTEP TRAY  
SILICONE, URINEMETER, STATLOCK



Fire in plant occurred that has caused a shortage of plastic material.

SUB: BD 343416A  
ADVANCE TRAY  
LUBRI-SIL IC, URINEMETER,  
STATLOCK



## ALLOCATION ITEMS

There are currently **152** items on allocation with Concordance (our med-surg distributor). Allocation occurs when manufacturers are having issues with supply and demand and they place restrictions on the amount of product hospitals receive to ensure everyone has product availability. We monitor these items closely and work with both the manufacturer and distributor as needed.