

60th Annual Meeting

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Celebrate the Difference: How Technicians Strengthen Inventory and Crisis Readiness

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Disclosure

We do not have a vested interest in or affiliation with any corporate organization offering financial support or grant monies for this continuing education activity, or any affiliation with an organization whose philosophy could potentially bias my presentation (within the last 12 months).

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Presentation Objectives

- Describe the technician's role in maintaining accurate inventory and supporting pharmacy operations during drug shortages and product recalls.
- Identify strategies technicians use to monitor inventory trends, communicate supply issues, and contribute to preparedness planning.
- Apply technician responsibilities in disaster preparedness and emergency response through a case study that demonstrates coordination, communication, and continuity-of-care support during a crisis.

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Objective 1

Technician's Role in Maintaining Accurate Inventory and Supporting Pharmacy Operations During Shortages and Recalls

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Common Market Disruption Terminology

Allocations	Supply Chain Interruptions	Recalls
Medication Shortages & Limited Releases	Market/Production Slowdown	Raw Material/Ingredient Shortages

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Entities Responsible for Accurate Inventory Functions

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graph TD
    ADM[ADM Technician] --> PB[Pharmacy Buyer]
    IV[IV Technician] --> PB
    PST[Pharmacy Supply Technician] --> PB
    FE[Front End Staff] --> PB
    OR[OR Technician] --> PB
    SPS[Supplemental Pharmacy Staff] --> PB
    
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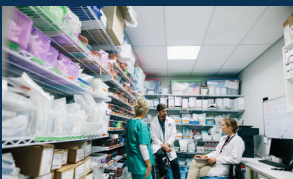
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Effective Management = Teamwork

- Coaching and Onboarding
- Section Ownership
- Leverage Technology
- Record keeping



<https://www.fsphpak.com/journalists-at-ssph-discussing-in-hospital-pharmacy-growth-1436d327>

Source: Seaway, Oct 2024, Inventory Management is not just for Pharmacists: The growing role of the Pharmacy Tech. Dang Tungs

Source: Seaway, Jan 12, 2025, Pharmacy Technicians can play a larger role in Inventory Management, Pharmacy Times. Interview with Jennifer Seaway, Pharmacy Times, March 12, 2025



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Examples of Poor Stock Rotation or Storage



Improper rotation of medications -
boxes on top of vials in the bin



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Examples of Poor Medication Storage



Improper placement of medication boxes and bags on existing product

[illegible]

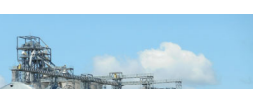


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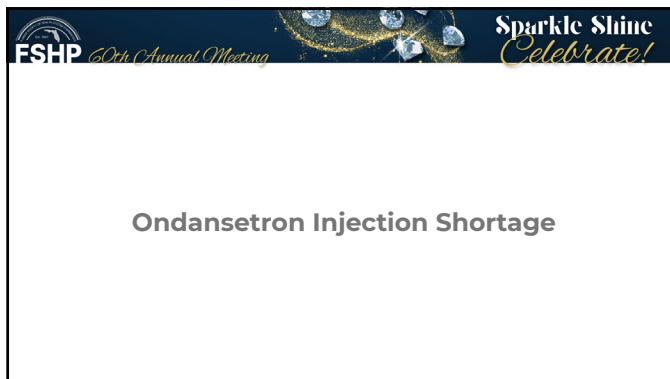
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Effective Communication Prevents Inventory Failures



The most effective way for technicians to support pharmacy functions are:

- Avoid silos, communicate early
- Notify buyer and pharmacy leadership
- Use multiple communication channels



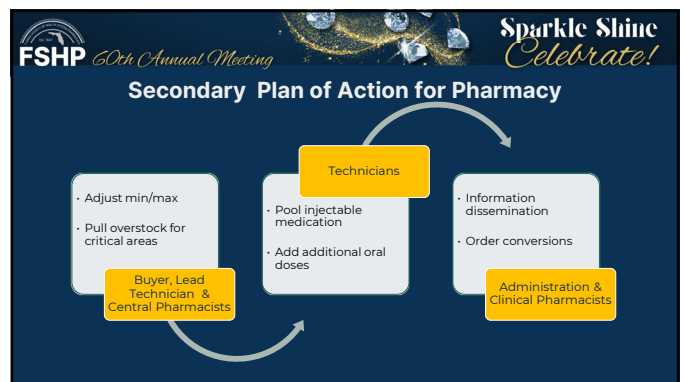
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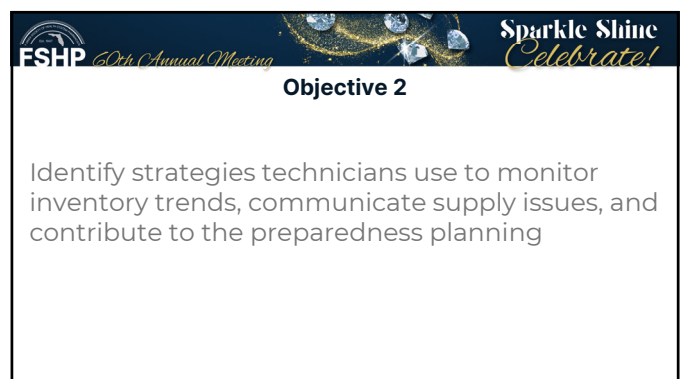
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graph TD
    A((Inventory Analysis/A  
Bc System)) --> B((Barcode scanning &  
RFID tracking))
    B --> C((Regular  
Cycle Counts))
    C --> D((Adjust PAR  
levels))
    D --> E((Immediate  
Use  
ordering))
    E --> A

```

Monitoring Strategies

Best Practices for Inventory Management in Retail encompasses everything you need for the inventory management in retail strategy. Furthermore all of The Art of Inventory Management cover the latest information technology. Inventory Types, Feb. 2016, Volume 98 Issue 2.




Communication Strategies

Real-Time Notifications

- Delivered through multiple channels
- Repeated to ensure awareness

Decision-Support Information

- Detailed, actionable data
- Tailored for Buyers and Administrators

Impact Analysis

- Chronic and acute impact assessments
- Designed for Buyers and Administrators



Source: Microsoft Office Images

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Contributing to Preparedness

Report data to Buyer & Administration

Resource
Documentation

Safety/Buffer
Stock

Equipment
Testing

Alternate
Source &
Contingency

Review Existing
Disaster Plan

Best Practices for Inventory Management in Health care contributing best practices for inventory management in retail
order, justice time impact of system like limited a balance in big countries around the world (2019) report health care market national in charge of
energy, business, et al. The Art of Inventory Management has been long pharmaceutical industry, pharmacy Times, Feb 21, 2020, Volume 32 Issue 2
Business, Long Time Contributed to Inventory Management Best Practices for Inventory Systems, Big Data Analytics and Supply Chain Management best practices for growing health systems

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**Objective 3**

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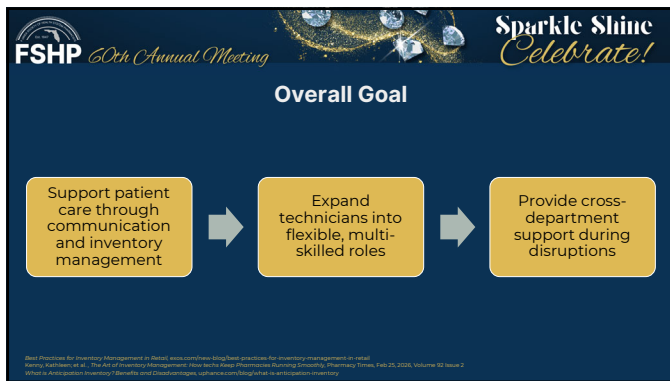
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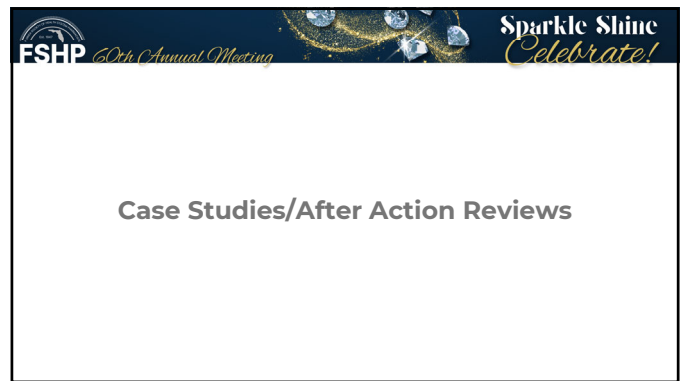
Technical Responsibilities in Disaster Preparedness

- Buyer & Administration**
 - Hurricane/disaster template
 - Conversion to order status
- All Staff**
 - Review entire disaster plan
 - Go bag
- Technicians**
 - Cycle counts
 - Operational adaptability
- Buyer and Administration**
 - Adjust PAR levels
 - Last minute ADM adjustments

After reviewing the Emergency Management in Detail, you will see how being best prepared for the emergency management is what the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has been doing for over 100 years. NFPA's 2016 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC) and International Building Code (IBC) are the most current editions of the codes that govern the construction of buildings and structures. NFPA's 2016 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC) and International Building Code (IBC) are the most current editions of the codes that govern the construction of buildings and structures. NFPA's 2016 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC) and International Building Code (IBC) are the most current editions of the codes that govern the construction of buildings and structures.



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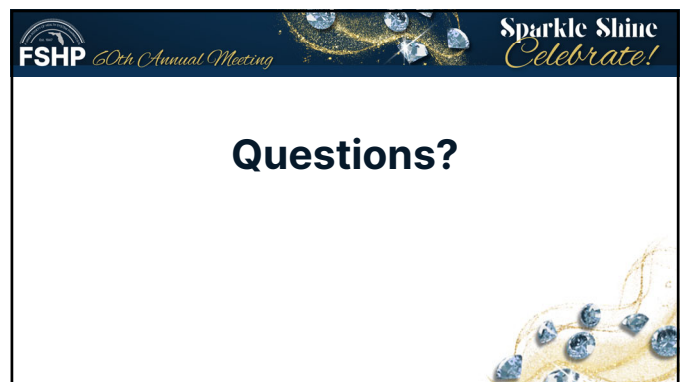
Summary

Proper stewardship of medication and supply inventories will support pharmacy operations during periods of shortages and recalls.

Strategies that incorporate coordination, communication, and continuity-of-care as they relate to supply issues, will greatly contribute to preparedness planning for any event.

Disasters are unpredictable, thus it's difficult to prepare for every scenario, but a plan to maintain and manage resources, as well as provide a continuity of care to patients is the foundation that an effective plan is built upon. Technicians have demonstrated the ability to step up and provide effective change regardless of the nature and severity of the event unfolding.

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Thank you!

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