



# Creation of software interface key to improving efficiency and patient safety

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Manrex Ltd. is pleased to announce that the Medication Detection Machine (MDM) is now compatible with McKesson's PACMED packaging system. A newly developed software interface allows the MDM to verify the contents of the strip packaged pouches produced by the PACMED system.

The compatibility of the MDM and the PACMED systems, two of the most advanced products in the 'automated tablet packaging' (ATP) market, allows users to provide the highest level of safety for their patients. Not only do the products work together to eliminate medication errors, but the automated systems allow for faster and more efficient prescription dispensing.

"What a lot of pharmacies do not take into consideration when implementing ATP (Automated Tablet Packaging) machines is the time and resources it will take to check each individual pouch before it leaves the pharmacy," stated Ben Szuuts, Sales Manager for Manrex. "With the MDM, the machine checks at a rate of one pouch per second. It verifies that the correct pills, in the correct quantity, for the correct patient, for the correct time have been dispensed into the correct pouch."

"The machine takes a digital color photo of each pouch and reports the results to a computer for verification by a pharmacist. A process which now takes seconds not hours."

Szuuts also added that the new interface stretches beyond the pharmacy walls, "Taking the extra step to ensure dispensing accuracy not only leverages the pharmacy providers position in the procurement process, it also allows nurses access to view various reports on what has been dispensed, to whom, in what quantities etc, reports which before MDM would have taken hours to prepare.

"Manrex and McKesson committed to this interface and are pleased that it is now developed and operational in several Canadian Pharmacies," stated Szuuts. "This stepping stone dramatically increases the efficiency of the pharmacy operation and focuses on improved patient safety, two key components of an effective and professional LTC service.

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