



Fraser Health Pharmacy Department

Pentapack UD 600 Testimonial

15th October 2008

To whom it may concern:

Fraser Health (FH) Pharmacy Department purchased a Pentapack UD 600 packager earlier this year. We determined that it provides functionality that meets the needs of a large Health Region implementing a decentralised automated drug distribution system. Listed below are some of the advantages that have been realised or are being considered as a result of the purchase of this equipment.

- FH Pharmacy has a centralised production centre which provides services for the Region packaging approximately 40,000 unit dose/day. Pentapack speed meets the high volume demands of our centralised facility.
- Eliminates the need for individual calibration of canisters when switching brands due to contract changes or back orders. Previously we were faced with the challenge of having to package product but not having a calibrated canister. This led to delays or the use of less efficient packaging processes. The Pentapack multi-use forming plates facilitate faster transition between products and brands.
- The packaging format provides improved protection to product avoiding accidental crushing during distribution. Experience has shown that rolling strips of UD packaging can result in damaged products being delivered to the site pharmacies.
- The sturdy packaging maintains product integrity where recycling occurs.
- FH has implemented automated drug cabinets (ADC) at one of its 12 acute sites and hopes to continue the implementation across the Region. The compact package produced by Pentapack allows for efficient stocking of ADCs, reducing refill frequency and reducing drawer/pocket jams associated with over stocking of bulkier packaging.
- The flexible cutting/blister options allow packaging alternatives for narcotic, self-medication and study drugs. FH anticipates that we will be able to eliminate the need for self-medication baggies and other types of blister packaging currently used for narcotics.
- FH Pharmacy also provides centralised distribution service to 2000 residential care clients using patient specific multi-dose packages. Purchasing the Pentapack provided us with the required capacity to complete the regional roll out of this service without compromising acute care packaging services.
- Pentapack also provides a liquid packaging and over-pouching alternative to allow for bedside verification readiness. FH Pharmacy has not taken advantage of this functionality to date however views this as an option that can be considered when unit dose liquid packaging is increased together with bedside verification implementation.



- Large volume packaging runs provides opportunities for contract negotiations for larger bulk bottles from pharmaceutical vendors, which also contributes to a “greener” supply chain.

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