

*February 1, 2016*

## **Patient safety at heart of provincial Smart IV Pump project**

Saskatchewan patients receiving IV medication in hospital will soon be a lot safer, thanks to the province-wide introduction this year of infusion “smart pumps” that will help prevent dosing errors.

A provincial drug library, created late last year by a project team based at 3sHealth, sets out all of dosing information for the more than 700 medications that are delivered by smart pumps in hospitals.

In January, a diverse group of healthcare professionals came together at 3sHealth to design a reliable process for submitting, approving, and communicating changes to that drug library, and for ensuring that all of the 3100 pumps around the province are updated.

During the one-week improvement event, the team developed a change request form and submission process that makes it easy for a frontline staff to identify and request changes to the provincial drug library. Under the new standard work processes, routine changes will be done on a monthly cycle, while critical changes are addressed in 24 hours.

“I’ve never been more convinced that we are better together as a health care system,” said Mark Anderson, following the report-out. Anderson is the sponsor and process owner of the RPIW and Vice President of Business Development at 3sHealth. “People with a really diverse background came together and collectively focused on patient safety.”

### *Improvement event participants included:*

*Dr. Joy Dobson, physician consultant, 3sHealth*  
*Terrence Davidson, Provincial Formulary Group*  
*Doug Selinger, RQHR, Pharmacist*  
*Justine Hunchak, eHealth, Provincial Information Technology*  
*Larry Clark, RQHR, Clinical Engineering Group*  
*Leah Palmer, ABCC, Clinical Nurse Educator*  
*Camille Delainey, HRHA, Clinical Nurse Educator*  
*Rhonda Goodtrack, 3sHealth, Clinical Lead*