

5 Ways Drug Diversion Can Harm Your Health Care Facility

REGULATORY SCRUTINY AND FINES

After drug diversion is discovered, your facility is prone to additional scrutiny, which can be costly, time consuming, and hurt staff morale.

\$2 million — Amount hospital was fined after DEA investigation showed security and record-keeping breaches failed to prevent large scale theft of hydrocodone.¹

LAWSUITS

Class-action lawsuits could be filed by patients affected by drug diversion.

30,000 — Number of patients put at risk during four infectious disease outbreaks since 2008 caused by drug diversion incidents.³

NEGATIVE PUBLICITY

Drug diversion publicity could label your facility as one that does a poor job of protecting patient safety. Negative press can mar your good reputation, which is difficult to rebuild within the community.

45 patients — Infected with Hepatitis C by David Kwiatkowski, an HCV-infected traveling radiology technician.²

MEDICARE/MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT

Drug diversion could mean you have not met the requirement to protect patients from harm, which can jeopardize reimbursements with Medicare and Medicaid.

CHARGES OF NEGLIGENCE

Even if supervisors are not aware of drug diversion occurring, they could still be charged with negligence.

➔ For free resources and tools to help take control of drug diversion, visit www.DiversionCentral.com.



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¹ Press release from U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, July 26, 2007, accessed at <http://www.justice.gov/dea/pubs/states/newsrel/chicago072607.html>.

² Wen P. Hospital worker gets 39 years in N.H. hepatitis case. Boston Globe. December 2, 2013. Accessed online 2/27/15.

³ Schaefer MK, Perz JF. Outbreaks of infections associated with drug diversion by US health care personnel. Mayo Clin Proc. 2014;89(7):878-887.