Table 5: Examples of Most Common Near Miss Incidents and Contributing Factors

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| Incident Type | Description | Contributing Factors Reported by Nursing Student |
| Dose Too Little | Second year nursing student withdrew half the dose when retrieving meds from the medication dispensing unit and failed to correct the mistake while performing the three checks. Clinical instructor caught the error. | Competency & education-inexperience  Environment/ Human Limitations-distraction, fatigue  Policy & Procedures-3 checks not done |
| Dose Too Much | Second year nursing student drew up incorrect amount insulin because of selecting incorrect insulin syringe and misreading graduation on syringe. Clinical instructor caught it at the first check. | Competency & education- knowledge deficit re. drug delivery device  Drug delivery device- incorrect syringe used |
| Dose Omission | Almost missed administering a med as nursing student did not check for new orders. Patient questioned nursing student about missing medication. | Competency & education- inexperience  Environment/ Human Limitations- distraction, workload  Policy/ Procedure- order not checked |
| Incorrect Time | Nursing student selected bedtime med from the medication dispensing unit when preparing AM meds. Caught and corrected by clinical instructor. | Competency & education- inexperience; knowledge deficit re. times  Environment/ Human Limitations-fatigue  Drug storage/ availability- drug not due still available |
| Incorrect Drug | Fourth year nursing student working with preceptor picked the wrong IV fluid bag as it was placed in the wrong location. Nursing student caught error before hanging IV. | Drug storage/ availability  Drug labelling/packaging-look-alike labelling  Competency & education-inexperience  Environment/ Human Limitations-distraction, workload |