An effective barcode driven solution from Fairfield that identifies and matches expressed breast milk to both mother and child.

Feeding times for a newborn is often a frantic scenario and this solution ensures that the mother can be confident her expressed milk is kept safe until needed. Feeding a baby the wrong milk can pose health risks, and with the help of Fairfield thousands of mothers can relax, knowing their expressed milk is uniquely matched to their baby.

The solution from Fairfield, deployed in many hospitals, works with barcodes as a technology driver. Barcoding systems offer many advantages over manual verification processes; they decrease human error, save time, and provide automated data and reporting to assist in monitoring and increasing patient care.

BENEFITS

- MATCHES MOTHER’S EXPRESSED BREAST MILK TO THEIR BABY
- TRACEABILITY OF FEEDING INTERVALS
- REDUCTION OF HUMAN ERROR
- VERIFICATION OF CLINICIAN ACCURACY
- DISINFECTANT READY BARCODE READERS
How it works:

A bar coded wrist band is issued to each patient, including the baby. The barcode is read by a hand held scanner that traces the patient to various processes such as the administration of medication. In addition the wrist band is also uniquely matched to a sheet of barcode labels that are presented to the mother, as well as a sheet of ‘verification’ labels that staff use to identify the unit floor station.

The mother simply expresses the milk, and places a barcode label on the bottle. The bottle is then placed in refrigerated storage by staff. Later, a clinician will retrieve the bottle, scan the master bar code label that was placed on it, and then scan the verification bar code label. The scanner will beep once if it is a positive match, and three times if it is a negative match.

If the match is positive, the clinician will then follow the feeding schedule as prescribed and create individual smaller bottles, placing a label from the unit’s verification bar code label sheet on the new, smaller individual bottles. The bottles are then returned to refrigerated storage.

At the time of feeding, the clinician retrieves the newly labelled bottle and follows the hospitals’ breast milk administration process. The clinician will scan the baby’s bar coded patient identification wristband, followed by scanning the verification bar code label that was placed on the smaller bottle. The system will alert the clinician if the breast milk matches or does not match to the baby’s bar coded wristband to ensure the baby receives the correct mother’s breast milk.

The solution can also enable supervisors to download a scanning history of the clinician, verifying that procedures are being correctly followed. Clinicians scan a ‘check in’ bar code at the start of each shift, which indicates the clinician on duty. In addition to check in history, the results of the last eight breast verification attempts are shown as well as the length of time passed from check in to a verification attempt.