Battery Safety in Medical Devices

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Background

• Batteries Purchase Sources
  – OEM
  – Battery Vendors

• Batteries were changed only upon failure

• Then……
Event

• Patient Monitor was in use in a patient room

• Battery
  – Failed 30 days prior
  – Replaced with new (non OEM)

• No Harm to patient but monitor totaled
Event

• MedSun Report filed

  – Sent Monitor w/Battery to Battery Vendor
    • Identified as potential charging circuit failure

  – Sent Monitor w/Batter to OEM
    • Identified Battery as cause of fire

  – Appears that safety circuit failed on battery
Process Changes

• All batteries replaced – 2 years

• Life Safety and Critical equipment
  – OEM batteries only

• Other equipment
  – Discontinued use of vendor
  – Limited vendors
  – Evaluate battery quality
    • PMs & when removed
Current Issues

• Home Health Equipment
  – Many failures that are battery related
  – Low compliance to get equipment returned

• UPS Batteries
  – Noticing early deterioration
  – Batteries swelling
  – Multiple sources (OEM and Battery Vendors)
Your Thoughts

How many of you feel that each organization should have a battery replacement program?

A. I believe that a plan/policy is important
B. I do not believe that a battery plan/policy is important

Online Results

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<tr>
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<th>A.</th>
<th>B.</th>
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<td>74</td>
<td>3</td>
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97% for A, 3% for B.
Your Thoughts

How many or you have a battery replacement policy or plan?

A. We do have a plan/policy
B. We do not have a plan/policy

Online Results

A. 15
B. 13
C. 1