

THE **NICU NURSES'** GUIDE TO

**NON-DISRUPTIVE
INFANT PATIENT ID**



The Importance of Neonatal Identification

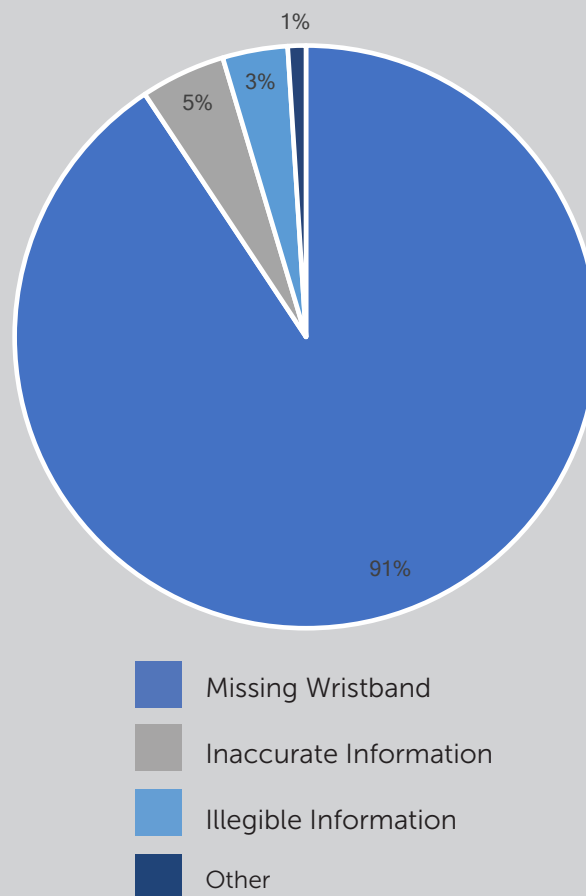
Throughout the healthcare industry, patient misidentification continues to be a cause of medication errors, transfusion errors, wrong person procedures, and the discharge of infants to incorrect families.

The trends towards limiting the number of hours worked by clinical team members contributes to an increase number of people interacting with each patient, increasing the probability of communication issues.

In many cases, missing wristbands or wristbands with incorrect information were identified as the root cause of incorrect drug administration, phlebotomy, and surgical interventions.

In the neonatal intensive care unit, patient identification has added challenges. With many of the newborns being in a fragile physical state, wristbands are often attached to the isolette or intravenous tubing instead of the infant out of the desire to leave them undisturbed. This can lead to lost or detached wristbands, exposing the patient to the pitfalls we've mentioned previously such as incorrect medication, discharge and procedures.

Most Common Wristband Errors in NICU

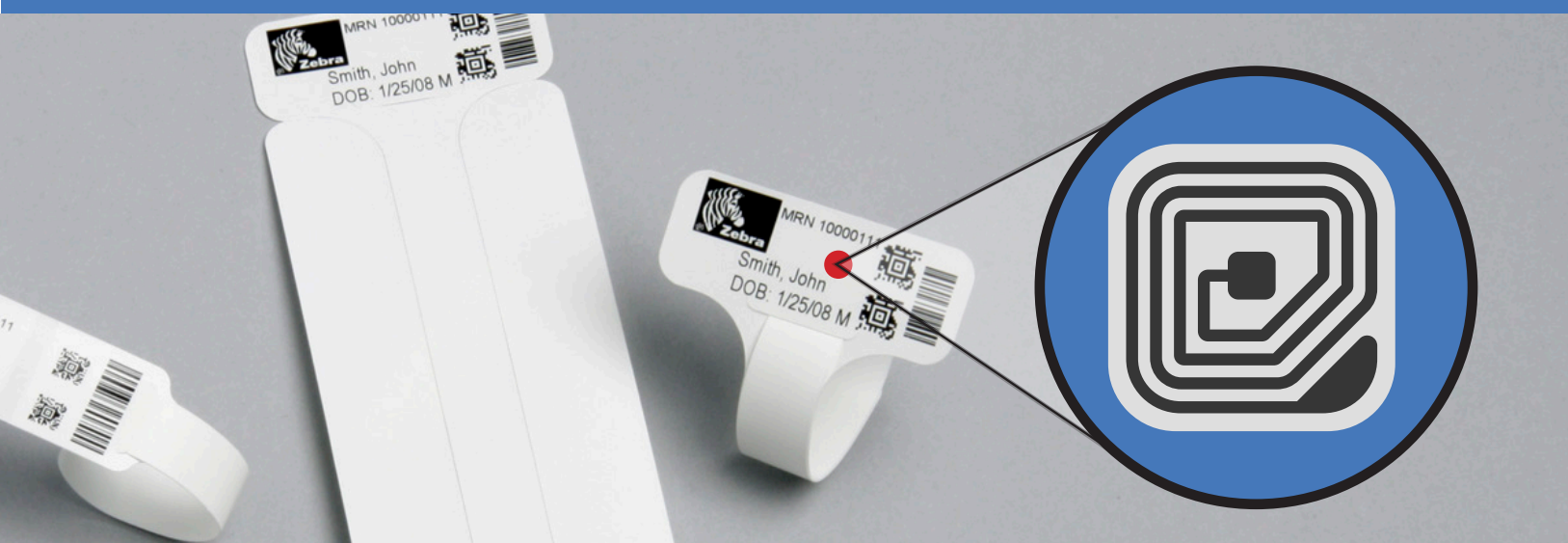


Using RFID in the NICU

Safely scan through incubators without disrupting the baby

RFID technology allows you to positively identify infants in the NICU without having to unswaddle or wake them. Using a comfortable, adjustable RFID infant ankle band, the RFID reader can read through the incubator and swaddle blankets while eliminating the potential for the scanner beam to get in baby's eyes.

- **Promotes sleeping in the NICU** – important for recovery, growth, and development of very young and sick babies. So, the infant is left sleeping soundly. Studies have shown that sleep is important for recovery, growth, and development of very young and sick infants.
- **Protects baby's eyes** – Keep scanner beams away from baby's face and provide accurate identification through padded incubator covers. RFID scanners do not have laser beams so there are no strong lights involved with scanning. The infant's eyes will be left unharmed.
- **Thermal shock** - No need to open the incubator which creates a thermal break, which is very traumatic to an infant.



Handheld RFID Readers

RFID readers can quickly and easily scan barcodes in addition to RFID tags. Hospitals can choose the reader that best suits their needs, including Bluetooth®, cordless and corded versions. Bluetooth® UHF RFID readers are designed to communicate with a variety of host devices via Bluetooth® wireless technology. Readers can be configured with 2D scanning.



RFID Encoders / Printers

RFID printers will easily encode and print UHF RFID wristbands for patients of all sizes. By using an RFID wristband, your staff can verify a patients' identity without having to move or disturb them. The ZD500R is small in size and will easily fit into your busy workstation. With automatic calibration, you'll enjoy lower media cost, less waste and fewer roll changes.

How does RFID patient identification work?

Related to patient identification, RFID tags are encoded with patient information such as name and birth date, and embedded in a cushioned, thermal wristband. The process is similar to barcoding, with the added benefit of being able to read the information from the RFID tag from a distance, through blankets and clothing, meaning you can leave your patient completely untouched and undisturbed.

The read range, or distance from which patient id can be confirmed, is adjustable based on selected equipment and hospital needs.

When a clinician needs to administer medicine or care, they simply point the handheld RFID reader in the patients direction, and hold down the button the reader. The patient information is then displayed through the medical information system interface, which the RFID system will integrate with.



What are the benefits of RFID patient identification for neonatal care?

Undisturbed Positive ID

With RFID wristbands, nurses can quickly scan and identify infant patients without having to unswaddle or wake them. Positive patient ID can be made through incubators and drapes as well as clothing and blankets.

Read Barcodes, Too

In addition to RFID tags, RFID readers can also capture barcodes to verify patient medications, specimens, charts, and more, limiting the number of devices needed in an already technology-heavy environment.

Comfort First

RFID thermal wristbands meant for NICU patients are specifically engineered for comfort and contact to human skin. Available in infant sizes, these wristbands are soft and cushioned, feature hypo-allergenic adhesive, and a heat resistant top coating.

Accurate, Durable Labeling

RFID wristbands with printed labels reduce the problem of legibility associated with handwritten wristbands as well as the potential for degrading ink quality and readability.






Bringing Technology to the Point of Care

RMS Omega works with healthcare organizations to design, deploy, manage and service point of care technology systems. Some of our core competencies include positive patient identification, medication verification, bedside blood collection, and specimen tracking. Our trained experts have extensive experience deploying barcoding, data collection, wireless and mobility technologies in hospitals and businesses nationwide.

Since established in 1997, we have been leveraging solid partnerships with the industry's principal hardware, software and supply manufacturers. Our premier level status with all manufacturers, along with our authorized on-site/depot repair, wireless infrastructure services, and commitment to excellence allow us to bring you the total solution.

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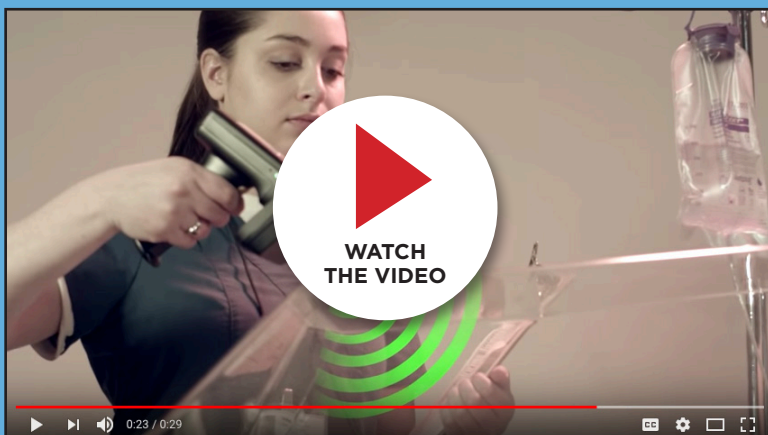
“
RMS Omega has been an excellent partner in getting our wireless bedside patient identification project up and running. They are very responsive to our needs and queries.”

Ginger, Lab Ops Manager
St Peter's Hospital

RestEasy RFID™
by RMS Omega

Positive Patient ID with RFID Technology

Let your Patients Rest



What's Included?



Includes: RFID readers, encoder/printer, wristbands, RFID tags, and installation.