Table: PCA Error Types Used to Categorize the Events

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| PCA Error Types Modified from Doyle’s Taxonomy |
| 1. Use of wrong drug or wrong cartridge 2. Accidental misprogramming3. False triggering4. False triggering by proxy 5. Drug accumulation in IV dead space6. Runaway fluid column due to "siphoning"7. PCA machine malfunction due to hardware failure8. PCA machine malfunction related to software design error9. Retrograde flow of PCA analgesic drug into a secondary IV set due to a temporarily blocked IV catheter10. Bad medical judgment in formulating PCA prescription, or opiate orders from other physicians unaware that PCA orders have been written  | 11. Medication given despite documented allergy12. Reprogramming with criminal intent13. Improper preparation of medication14. Discontinuation or medication change orders not followed in a timely manner15. Improper patient education on PCA pump use16. Improper patient selection (patient unable to physically use or mentally understand pump correctly)17. Improper Nurse/Health care professional education on PCA pump use18. Inadequate/Improper Patient Monitoring (*e.g.*, vitals, level of somnolence) |

IV = Intravenous; PCA = Patient Controlled Analgesia

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