

THE 'LOOK ALIKE SOUND ALIKE' MEDICATIONS: PART 1

PHARMACY BULLETIN

LOOK *Alike* & SOUND *Alike*

[LASA] medications are medications that have similar visual in packaging or appearance or having similar spelling of names or phonetics. This may lead to potentially harmful medication errors. Therefore, identification, periodic review of LASA medications in the medication storage areas are needed to minimise unintentional medication errors during times where these could be overlooked.

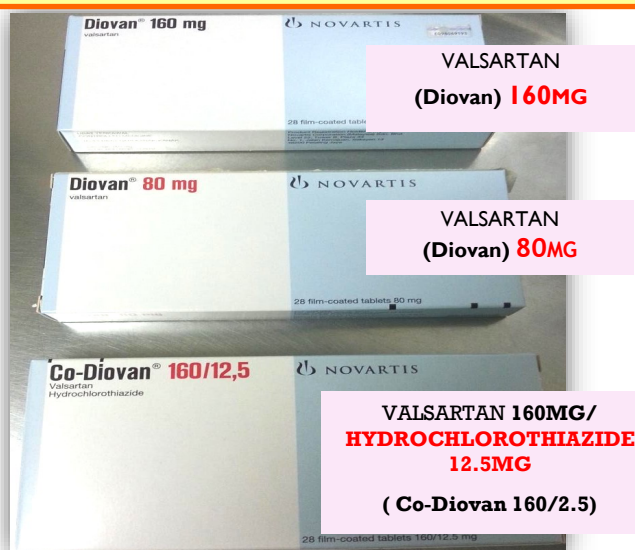
TIPS #1 to avoid LASA errors: Do not rely on familiarity, visual recognition or common location. Always READ generic name, READ brand names, READ label, READ Prescription, and RE-READ again.



SALMETEROL **50 MCG**/
FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE
500 MCG

SALMETEROL **50 MCG**/
FLUTICASONE PROPIONATE
250MCG

TIPS #2 to avoid LASA errors: Minimize the use of verbal and phone orders.



VALSARTAN
(Diovan) **160MG**

VALSARTAN
(Diovan) **80MG**

VALSARTAN **160MG**/
HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE
12.5MG
(Co-Diovan 160/2.5)



IRBERSARTAN 300 MG/
HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE
25MG

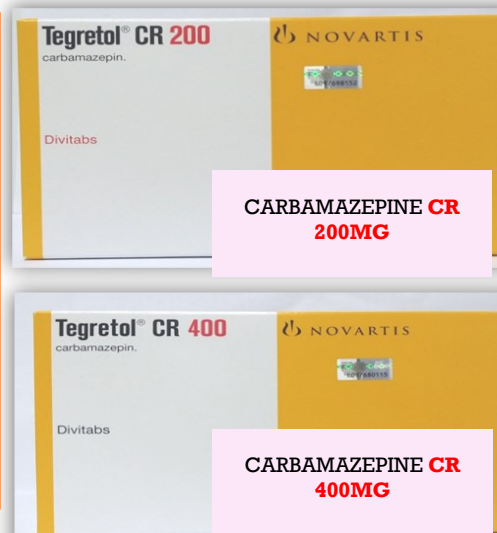
IRBERSARTAN 300 MG/
HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE
12.5MG



MELPHALAN
(**ALKE**ran)
2mg

CHLORAMBUCIL
(**LEU**keran)
2mg

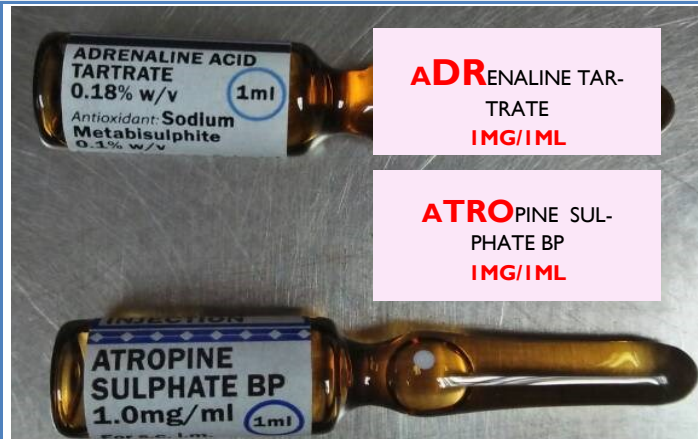
TIPS #3 to avoid LASA errors: Store problem medications in separate locations or in non-alphabetical order, such as by bin number.



CARBAMAZEPINE **CR**
200MG

CARBAMAZEPINE **CR**
400MG

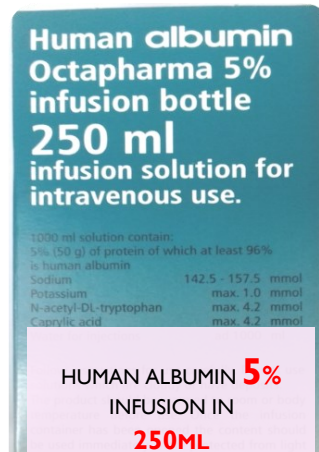
Look-Alike , Sound-Alike (LASA) for Injectable Drugs



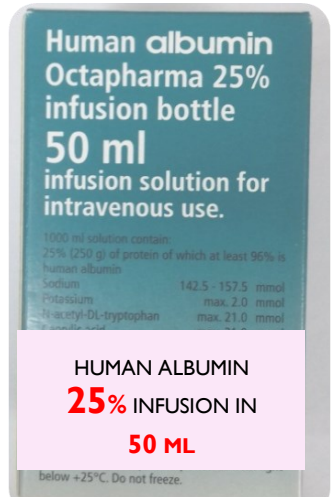
ADRENALINE TARTRATE
1MG/1ML

ATROPINE SULPHATE BP
1MG/1ML

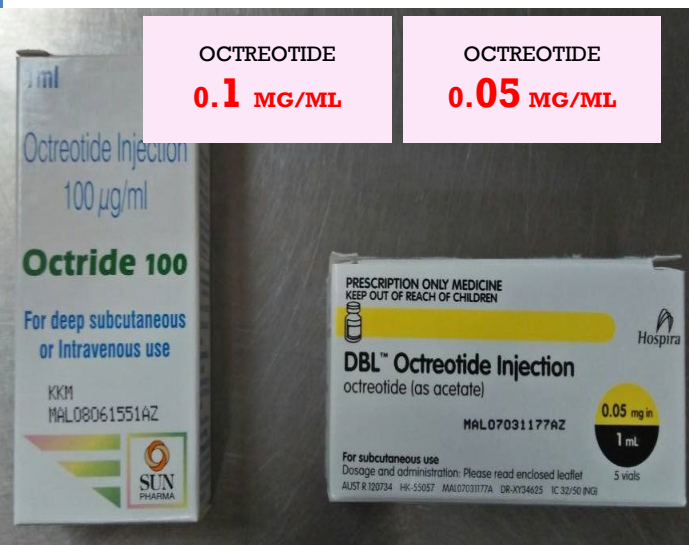
TIPS #4 to avoid LASA errors: Check the purpose of the medication prior to administration.



HUMAN ALBUMIN 5%
INFUSION IN
250ML



HUMAN ALBUMIN 25%
INFUSION IN
50 ML



OCTREOTIDE
0.1 MG/ML

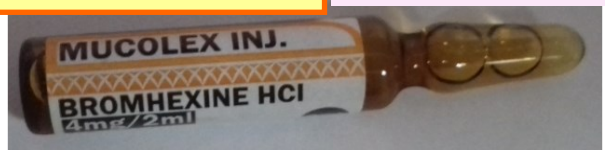
OCTREOTIDE
0.05 MG/ML



CHLORPHENIRAMINE MALEATE BP
10MG/ML

TIPS #5 to avoid LASA errors: Include both generic name and brand name on labels. Generic names in larger font size.

BROMHEXINE HCL
4MG/2ML



IV ENOXAPARIN
20MG

IV ENOXAPARIN
40MG

IV ENOXAPARIN
60MG

TIPS #6 to avoid LASA errors: Use **bold** fonts, **bigger** fonts and **colour** differences to reduce the confusion on storage bins and shelves.

Article contribution by PRP Amalina

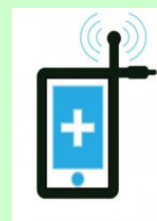
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