CORRESPONDENCE

Another easy method to reduce syringe swapping

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Received: 27 June 2018 / Accepted: 29 June 2018 / Published online: 2 August 2018
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To the Editor,

The article by Pysyk made interesting reading and presented a novel way to potentially prevent syringe swapping in the operating theatre.¹ Indeed, inadvertent administration of muscle relaxant to a patient can have

disastrous implications. We would like to submit that we have been using a similar technique to prevent syringe swapping. After loading the muscle relaxant in the syringe, the needle is capped and inserted inside the empty drug ampoule (Figure, panel A). In this way, the syringe

Figure To help prevent errors in drug administration due to syringe swapping, after aspirating a muscle relaxant into a syringe, the needle is capped and inserted inside the empty drug ampoule (panel A). This

makes the syringe containing a muscle relaxant easily distinguishable from syringes containing other drugs (panel B) during administration of an anesthetic

This letter is accompanied by a reply. Please see Can J Anesth 2018; 65: this issue.

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containing the muscle relaxant can be easily distinguished from syringes containing other drugs (Figure, panel B). In resource-challenged environments, this can be an effective way to prevent drug administration errors in the operating theatre.

Conflicts of interest None declared.

Editorial responsibility This submission was handled by Dr. Hilary P. Grocott, Editor-in-Chief, *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia*.

Reference

1. Pysyk CL. Differentiating muscle relaxant syringes to reduce syringe swap error. *Can J Anesth* 2018; 65: 850-1.