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(54) Title: VERIFICATION OF DISPENSED ITEMS

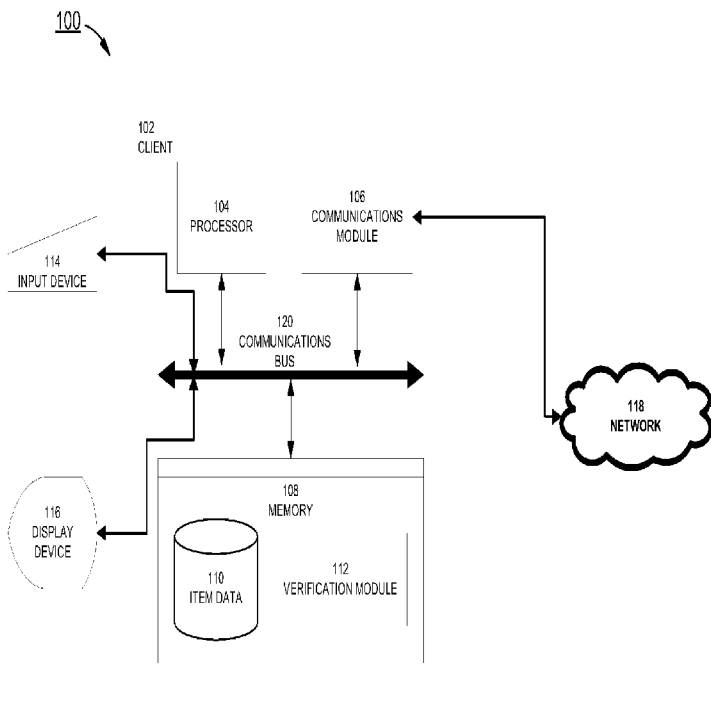


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: An automated medication dispensing system is disclosed. The system includes a memory configured to store identifying information for at least one item. The identifying information includes an indicator associated with at least one specific feature of the at least one item. The system also includes a processor configured to dispense the at least one item to a user, an output module configured to display the identifying information for the at least one item, and an input device configured to receive, from the user, input indicating that the user has verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the output module. Handheld devices, bedside administration systems, methods, and machine-readable mediums are also disclosed.

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**Previous Correction:**  
see Notice of 22 December 2011

## AMENDED CLAIMS

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1. An automated medication dispensing system comprising:
  - a memory configured to store identifying information for at least one item, the identifying information comprising an indicator associated with at least one specific feature of the at least one item;
  - a processor configured to dispense the at least one item to a user;
  - an output module configured to display the identifying information for the at least one item; and
  - an input device configured to receive, from the user, input indicating that the user has verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the output module;wherein the processor is further configured to output an alert if, within a predetermined amount of time, the user has not verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the output module.
2. The system of Claim 1, further comprising an input device configured to receive access information, wherein the processor is configured to dispense the at least one item to the user if the access information indicates the user has access to the at least one item.
3. The system of Claim 1, wherein the identifying information displayed by the output module comprises an image of the at least one item.
4. The system of Claim 1, wherein the at least one specific feature of the at least one item comprises at least one of a shape, color, and marking of the at least one item.
5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the at least one item is a medication.
6. A handheld device comprising:

a memory configured to store identifying information for at least one item, the identifying information comprising an indicator associated with at least one specific feature of the at least one item;

a processor configured to receive information identifying that the at least one item has been dispensed to a user;

a display module configured to display the identifying information for the at least one item; and

an input device configured to receive, from the user, input indicating that the user has verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the display module,

wherein the processor is further configured to output an alert if, within a predetermined amount of time, the user has not verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the display module.

7. A bedside administration system comprising:

a cabinet housing configured to hold at least one item and configured to be accessed by an authorized user;

a memory configured to store identifying information for the at least one item, the identifying information comprising an indicator associated with at least one specific feature of the at least one item;

a processor configured to dispense, from the cabinet housing, the at least one item to the authorized user;

an output module configured to display the identifying information for the at least one item; and

an input device configured to receive, from the user, input indicating that the user has verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the output module,

wherein the processor is further configured to output an alert if, within a predetermined amount of time, the user has not verified that the dispensed item has the same identifying information as the identifying information displayed by the output module.

8. A method for verifying the dispensing of an item comprising:

receiving a selection for at least one item to be dispensed;

dispensing the at least one item to a user;  
retrieving identifying information for the at least one item from memory, the identifying information comprising an indicator associated with at least one specific feature of the at least one item;  
displaying the identifying information for the at least one item;  
outputting an alert if, within a predetermined amount of time, the user has not verified that the dispensed at least one item has the same identifying information as the displayed identifying information; and  
receiving, from the user, input indicating that the user has verified that the dispensed at least one item has the same identifying information as the displayed identifying information.

9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

receiving access information from a user,  
wherein the at least one item is dispensed to the user if the access information indicates the user has access to the at least one item.

10. The method of Claim 8, wherein the displayed identifying information comprises an image of the at least one item.

11. The system of Claim 8, wherein the at least one specific feature of the at least one item comprises at least one of a shape, color, and marking of the at least one item.

12. The method of Claim 8, wherein the at least one item is a medication.

13. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing a processor to execute instructions to verify the dispensing of an item by performing steps comprising:

receiving a selection for at least one item to be dispensed;  
dispensing the at least one item to a user;  
retrieving identifying information for the at least one item from memory, the identifying information comprising an indicator associated with at least one specific feature of the at least one item;  
displaying the identifying information for the at least one item;

outputting an alert if, within a predetermined amount of time, the user has not verified that the dispensed at least one item has the same identifying information as the displayed identifying information; and

receiving, from the user, input indicating that the user has verified that the dispensed at least one item has the same identifying information as the displayed identifying information.