



## Subcutaneous Medication Infusion Device Chart

Facility / Service: ..... Year: **20**  
 Ward / Unit: .....

(Affix identification label here)

URN: .....  
 Family name: ..... NOT A VALID PRESCRIPTION UNLESS IDENTIFIERS PRESENT  
 Given name(s): .....  
 Address: .....  
 Date of birth: ..... Sex:  M  F  I  
 First Prescriber to Print Patient Name and Check Label Correct: .....

**Do not use this chart for Graseby syringe drivers.**

The *Graseby Syringe Driver Subcutaneous Medication Infusion Chart (SW008)* should be used and is available through FAMMIS (material number 10197091).

**if symptoms are not controlled, please refer to PRN section of medication chart.**  
**if not effective / applicable, contact MO or ..... team.**

### Subcutaneous Infusion Devices

#### Important note:

1. There are many infusion devices available to deliver subcutaneous medication infusions. It is important that differences are noted and care taken in ensuring the device is set correctly.
2. Ensure correct consumables for device are used (e.g. syringe, cassette, bag).
3. If a syringe is required for administration of infusion, use only luer lock syringes; 20mL is the recommended minimum syringe size.
4. Dilute the infusion as much as practical.

#### Priming The Giving Set

- Prime the line with the infusion contents so the drug reaches the patient immediately
- Each time the line is primed the infusion will be completed in less than the prescribed 24 hours.
- Change the line for infusions no more frequently than 72 hour intervals or when the catheter is changed.
- If changing the concentration, then the line must be changed and primed.

#### Opioid Patches (e.g. Fentanyl, Buprenorphine)

Patients commenced on continuous subcutaneous infusion of opioids should have their existing opioid therapy reassessed. This includes discontinuation and removal of opioid patches prior to commencement of the infusion. Where an opioid patch has not been discontinued, contact MO for clarification.

### Trouble Shooting Refer to relevant product information for additional troubleshooting

Problem	Cause	Solution
Device is alarming	Problem has been detected	Read error message on display and take appropriate action
Is the patient experiencing increase in symptoms?	Flat battery	Change battery
	Line kinked	Unkink line
	Cannula kinked	Change cannula
	Leaking line	Change line
Infusion too fast	Wrong dose	Check order, replace infusion with correct dose
	Line and site recently changed	No action if reduced volume is due to priming line
	Incorrect rate setting	Check rate setting and adjust to order
Infusion too slow	Line kinked	Unkink line
	Cannula kinked	Change cannula
	Flat battery	Change battery
	Incorrect rate setting	Check rate setting
	Has device been stopped for procedure?	No action
	Site not functioning	Resite cannula

### Opioid Conversions

#### Consultation with a Pain Clinic or Palliative Care Service is advised

This table has been included to provide clinicians with decision support. Where available, local opioid conversion guidelines should be referred to.

*These are average equivalent doses because of pharmacokinetic variation between individuals. When changing from one opioid to another, commence with 50% to 75% of the calculated equianalgesic dose and then titrate to response.*

Opioid	Oral	Parenteral*
Morphine	30 mg	10 mg IM / IV / subcut
Codeine	240 mg	-
Fentanyl <sup>^</sup>	-	100 micrograms IM / IV / subcut / epidural
Hydromorphone	6 mg	2 mg IM / IV / subcut
Oxycodone	20 mg	10 mg IV / subcut
Tramadol <sup>#</sup>	150 mg	100 mg IM / IV

\* Intramuscular administration should be avoided in patients receiving palliative care because of their irregular absorption and the pain that occurs on administration.

<sup>^</sup> For conversion of morphine to transdermal fentanyl patches, consult with a Pain Clinic or Palliative Care Service.

<sup>#</sup> Tramadol may not be suitable for patients with moderate to severe pain.

Table 1.4 From Therapeutic Guidelines: eTG Complete, March 2010

## SUBCUTANEOUS MEDICATION INFUSION DEVICE CHART

