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Standard Operating Procedure for NHS Ayrshire and Arran Community Nursing

This document is adapted from the national 'Guidelines for the use of syringe pumps in palliative care'.

Item	Local variation	Systems / processes agreed and in place
DIFFERENT SYRINGE PUMPS AVAILABLE	Syringe Pumps: <input type="checkbox"/> BD Body Guard T	<i>*Staff should be aware of, and familiar with, the syringe pumps used locally</i>
EQUIPMENT	Battery	<i>*Staff should be aware of, and familiar with, battery use as per local systems</i>
	Good quality 9 volt (6LR61) alkaline battery:	Duracell Plus V
	Battery left in situ when pump not in use:	Yes, recommended by manufacturer for Bodyguard T
	Minimum battery percentage level required at start of infusion:	50% (Community Setting)
	Syringe Size:	<i>*Staff should be aware of syringe sizes used locally & implications of syringe selection i.e. *50ml syringe unlikely to be accommodated with a lock box</i>
		30mls Leur lock syringe
		50mls Leur lock syringe only with advice from palliative care team requires lock box provided from Ayrshire Hospice
	Infusion equipment:	<i>*Staff should be aware of, and familiar with, infusion equipment used as per local systems and policies</i>

	Subcutaneous infusion device:	BD Saf- T – Intima safety system straight single port, available in blue 22 Gauge, Yellow 24 Gauge are both indicated subcutaneous use.
	Skin prep prior to insertion of subcutaneous infusion device:	Cleanse skin with soap and water if visible Alcohol wipe if required
	Site dressing:	sterile semi-permeable transparent film dressing
	Extension line:	PVC single extension line, 100cm 0.5mmIDx2.5 mm, anti-syphon valve M/FLL
	Agreed change interval for extension line:	3 Days / unless extension line is damaged

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	Lockbox:	Staff carry a key for lock box
	Plastic Cover:	Always use plastic lock box
	Fabric Cover (single use):	Single patient use - required when patient is ambulant or medication within syringe driver requires to be protected from sunlight
	No cover required:	If patient is bed bound and medication within syringe does not need protected from sunlight.
	KEY:	Community nursing staff carry key for syringe driver lock box
MANAGEMENT OF EQUIPMENT & INCIDENTS	Maintenance & Servicing:	<i>*Staff should be aware of, and familiar with, local procedures for maintenance, repair and reporting errors / incidents</i>
	Department	Medical Physics
	Reporting System	DATIX
DEATH OF PATIENT WHILE SYRINGE PUMP IS RUNNING	Syringe pump in situ:	<i>*Staff should be aware of, and familiar with, local procedures for the management of the syringe pump & contents when a patient dies</i>
	Expected death:	The syringe pump can be stopped as per national guidance
	Unexpected death:	The syringe pump and all associated equipment should be left in situ. Escalate to senior nurse/medical team and await further advice. Check local policy for 'Care Around Death' or equivalent.

RECORD KEEPING	Documentation:	<i>*Staff should be aware of, and familiar with, the suite of documents used locally to support the delivery of medicines via a syringe pump i.e. for prescribing, preparing, monitoring and recording</i>
OTHER(S)		Community nursing profile including risk assessments and care plans available on EMIS Web
		Palliative care Kardex
		Monitoring Chart for CME T34 Syringe Pump Bundle

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