APOMORPHINE ADMINISTERING PROCEDURE VIA SUB-CUTANEOUS INFUSION DEVICE TO IN-PATIENTS WITH PARKINSON’S DISEASE

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### Summary of Amendments

- Document updated.
- Supersedes previous Trust procedure reference no 276.
PROCEDURE ADMINISTERING APOMORPHINE VIA SUB-CUTANEOUS INFUSION DEVICE TO IN-PATIENTS WITH PARKINSON’S DISEASE

- Patients who are receiving Apomorphine therapy will normally use a specific ambulatory device, the APO-GO pump, which is set up by their carers; however staff in the acute hospital setting are not trained to use this device so an alternative, the McKinley T34, is to be used.

- Please see overleaf for the full procedure/checklist involved in setting up a McKinley T34 syringe driver to administer Apomorphine in an acute hospital setting.

- Do not alter this procedure unless advised to do so by the Parkinson’s disease Nurse or Doctor.

- Apomorphine stains green – these stains are resistant to most cleaning methods, be careful during set up and disposal of syringes.

- To reduce skin irritation it is important to alternate the site of injection daily. Three sites are used – the anterior abdominal wall and the anterior aspect of each thigh.

If you have any queries or experience any problems regarding the guidance in this document, please contact:-

The Parkinson’s Disease Nurse Specialist can be contacted on Rookwood Ext. 33838

Clinical Engineering Help Desk (UHW Ext. 45678) for information on the T34 Syringe Driver.

Pharmacy (UHW Ext. 42988; Llandough Ext. 25261) for information on Apomorphine.
CHECKLIST FOR SETTING UP A MCKINLEY T34 SYRINGE DRIVER FOR APOMORPHINE

1. Apomorphine is available from pharmacy in pre-filled 10ml syringes (5mg/ml).
2. Obtain a McKinley T34 and disposables pack from the Medical Equipment Loan Service.
3. Calculate the correct volume of Apomorphine for the patient’s prescription:
   For example.
   4.5mg/hr over 15 hours.
   Therefore draw up 14.5ml to compensate for priming the line.
4. Calculate the rate required (in this case after priming):
   Draw up the required dose of Apomorphine, from the pre-filled syringes:
   - Take the Apo-go connecter that is provided with the pre-filled syringe from Pharmacy and detach one of the caps. Screw open end onto the luer lock syringe.
   - Detach the second connecter cap. Remove the grey rubber cap from the Pre-Filled Syringe and attach to the connecter.
   - Holding the syringes vertically, push down on the plunger of the pre-filled syringe to transfer the required volume of Apomorphine.
5. Prepare a label and attach to the syringe.
6. Examine T34 to ensure it is serviceable.
7. Insert battery – switch on T34.
8. Wait for self check to complete:
   - Display lights up
   - Alarm sounds
   - Drive mechanism moves to last position
   - Configured data is displayed
9. Connect the butterfly set to syringe and prime the line
10. Position the drive mechanism on the T34 to fit syringe length using the ◄◄ and the ►► keys.
11. Fit the syringe and confirm the type and size.
12. Insert the butterfly device subcutaneously and secure with a transparent dressing.
13. Insert the calculated rate in ml/hr using the ▲ and ▼ keys.
14. Confirm the rate entered.
15. The display will show the current infusion data:
    - Volume xx.xml
    - Duration xx:xx
    - Rate x.xxml/hr
16. If correct confirm the settings.
17. Start the infusion & lock the keypad [i].
18. Place the syringe driver correctly into its box and lock.
19. Place the syringe driver out of direct sunlight at approximately the same height as the infusion site.
    Document date, time and volume left in syringe.
20. Check syringe driver after 10 minutes to:
    - ensure that the volume is decreasing appropriately
    - the site is not inflamed
    - that the battery capacity is greater than 30%