Aurora BayCare Medical Center

Aurora Health Care® BayCare Clinic

Subcutaneous (SQ) Infusions

Medicine regimen for: _____

Aurora VNA Pharmacy in Milwaukee (800-862-2201) or Green Bay (877-268-9138) has 24-hour pharmacy and nursing coverage should you have supply needs or questions about your care.

The following is a simple guide to follow for your infusion. Refer to the attached pages for more detailed instructions.

Preparing the site to give your medicine:

- Wash your hands.
- Gather supplies (alcohol wipes, subcutaneous infusion set, medicine, pump, Tegaderm, sharps box).
- Load pump and prime subcutaneous infusion set with medication to be infused.
- Scrub skin with alcohol for 15 seconds.
- Peel backing off subcutaneous infusion set if using SUB-Q-SET (blue tab remains).
- Pinch skin where injection is to be given.
- Insert needle into pinched skin at 45 to 90 degree angle (depending on needle set).
- Place gauze for comfort if using winged set. Cover with Tegaderm dressing.
- Rotate site every 3 to 5 days (INS guidelines, 3rd edition) or sooner if you have irritation and/or leaking.
- Label site with date and "SUB-Q" infusion.

Name of drug: _____ Days/times of injections: _____

Start date: _____ Stop date of medicine: _____

Lab tests and dates ordered: _____

Nurse contact: _____

Other notes: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Continued

Detailed instructions

Things to report to your doctor:

• Possible signs of infection:

- ☐ Pain
- ☐ Redness
- ☐ Increased warmth at the site
- ☐ Hardness or lumps at injection sites (This can happen if you do not rotate injection sites as scar tissue forms. The medicine won't be as effective it is given in these areas.)
- ☐ Drainage (i.e. pus-like, yellow/green/brown discharge)
- ☐ Skin breakdown (i.e. open sores)

Tips when giving your injection:

• Look at your medicine before you inject it into your skin. If it is discolored, things are floating in it, or if it is frozen, **do not use the medicine** and call the Aurora VNA pharmacist.

• Rotate the sites that you give the injections. This will allow the medicine to absorb into your skin and work properly. If you do not rotate the sites, hardened lumps/scar tissue can form. Injecting medicine into scar tissue prevents the medicine from working as it should.

• **Do not inject** medicine into scars, moles, near the belly button/belt line or open areas of skin.

• Store the medication per label directions.

Getting ready for the infusion:

• Prepare a clean work area.

• Wash your hands with soap and water. This reduces your risk of infection.

• Gather supplies needed (alcohol wipes, subcutaneous infusion set, medicine, pump, Tegaderm, sharps box).

• Look at the expiration date on your medicine. **Do not use** the medicine if it has expired. Check the label for right drug, right person, right dose.

• Each subcutaneous infusion set is used one time and then thrown away in the sharps box.

• Label tubing "Subcutaneous Infusion."

Inserting the set

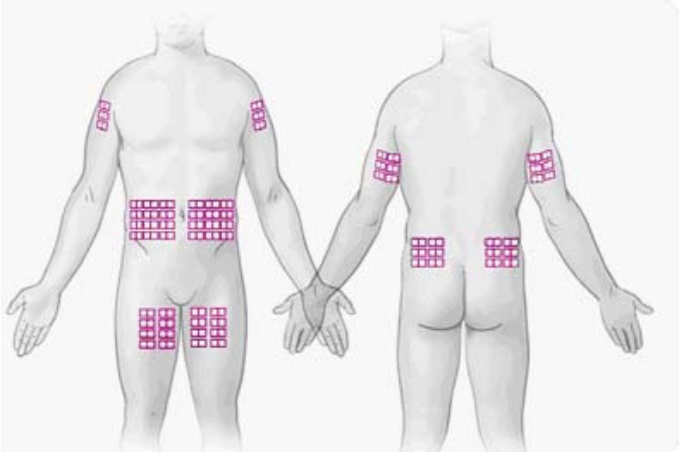


• Select the site that you are going to give the injection.

- – You need to choose an area where there is a good supply of fat tissue.
- – Be sure to rotate the site with each injection.
- – Do not give the injection in moles, scars or open wounds.

– Subcutaneous injections can be given in the following areas:

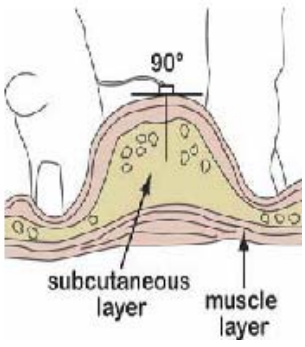
- Abdomen (avoid a 1 to 2 inch area around the belly button)
- Outer thighs
- Outer arms
- Upper outer buttocks/hips



- Clean the selected skin site with alcohol.
- Place tubing into infusion pump.
- Prime subcutaneous infusion set with medication to be infused.
- Peel backing off of subcutaneous infusion set
- Pinch about 1 inch of skin where injection is to be given.
- With other hand, insert needle into pinched skin at 45 to 90 degree angle.
- Let go of pinched skin and apply dressing (Tegaderm or gauze/tape).
- Throw used needle/sets into sharps container.
- Clean site with alcohol and cover with bandage, if needed.
- Rotate site every 3 to 5 days (INS guidelines, 3rd edition) or more often if signs of irritation or leaking occur.

* Insuflon is a subcutaneous catheter that may be used, as well. See website for more information: intrapump.com/insuflon

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The information presented is intended for general information and educational purposes. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care provider. Contact your health care provider if you believe you have a health problem.

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