

## Background

- We sometimes encounter patients attending our ED on T34 pumps delivering high daily doses of opiates and other drugs that might be unfamiliar to us
- These patients are not always nearing the end of their life; some merely have long term complex specialist palliative care needs and are on syringe drivers for symptom control
- To ensure that symptom control is uninterrupted if the syringe runs out, ED staff need to know how to re-prescribe and prepare the medicines and know how to operate the T34 pumps

## Notes for prescribers

- If you are not comfortable with prescribing the palliative medicine doses required (e.g. 100mg or more of morphine over 24h), specialist advice is always available:
  - **Mon-Fri 08:00 – 17:00**, contact the Palliative Care CNS by creating an 'ED Referral Palliative Care' on Nervecentre or by calling **07814 364 595**
  - **Out of hours**, contact the on-call Palliative Care Consultant via switchboard
- Prescribe all syringe driver medicines on the 'REGULAR MEDICINES' pages of the UHL drug chart, using a circular arrow in the 'Time' column to denote 24h infusion as shown in the picture on the right
- Write 'via syringe driver together with [name of any other drugs]' in the prescription's 'SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS' box as shown

REGULAR MEDICINES										
MORNING (AROUND 0800); MIDDAY (BETWEEN 1200 & 1400); TEATIME (AROUND 1800); BEDTIME (AROUND 2200)										
ENTER DOSE AGAINST TIME REQUIRED								YEAR		
DATE										
MEDICINE (approved name) <b>MORPHINE</b>			INDICATION <b>Pain</b>			SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS <b>via T34 pump together with levomepromazine</b>			PHARMACIS	
Date <b>27-4-21</b>		Route <b>SC</b>		PRESCRIBER'S SIGNATURE & NAME			Bleep No.	Supply	POD	
Enter Dose against Time	Time	Dose								
	<b>24h</b>	<b>100mg</b>								
Morning	⤴									
Midday										
Teatime										
Bedtime										
MEDICINE (approved name) <b>LEVOMEPRIMAZINE</b>			INDICATION <b>Nausea</b>			SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS <b>via T34 pump together with morphine</b>			PHARMACIS	
Date <b>27-4-21</b>		Route <b>SC</b>		PRESCRIBER'S SIGNATURE & NAME			Bleep No.	Supply	POD	
Enter Dose against Time	Time	Dose								
	<b>24h</b>	<b>12.5mg</b>								
Morning	⤴									
Midday										
Teatime										
Bedtime										

## Notes for nurses

- If you and your shift colleagues are unfamiliar with operating the T34 pump, you will usually be able to find someone who knows what to do on EDU, EFU, AFU or AMU/ACB
- **Mon-Fri 08:00 – 17:00**, you can also obtain advice from the Palliative Care CNS by creating an 'ED Referral Palliative Care' on Nervecentre or by calling **07814 364 595**
- The medicines prescribed in the ED must be given via an LRI T34 pump:
  - DO NOT** use the pump the patient came in with (this will be a community T34 pump – settings are different)
- Draw up medicines neat in a luer lock 20mL syringe, then add water for injection to a total volume of 17mL.
  - NB:** If the volume of neat drug exceeds 17mL (i.e. very large dose of opioid), seek Palliative Care advice.
- The key for the T34 pump lockable case is located on a key strap with the Red Majors coordinator
- A [Quick Guide to the T34 pump and consumables](#) is available

- For video instructions on INsite, follow the steps below:

- Copy the following URL

[insitetogether.xuhl-tr.nhs.uk/Divisions/Corporate/patientsafetyportal/Pages/default.aspx](https://insitetogether.xuhl-tr.nhs.uk/Divisions/Corporate/patientsafetyportal/Pages/default.aspx)

- Open Google Chrome (**NB:** Clip will **NOT** run on the default IE browser)

- In Chrome, paste the URL into the address bar

- Hit 'Enter'

- Scroll down and look for the T34 pump training video on the left hand side

### LATEST VIDEOS



T34 Training Video

- **NB:** Training is being rolled out across ED by medical physics - speak to your NIC about how to access this.
- An e-learning module is also available via HELM; search for 'T34'