

## Which syringe driver do you use?

January – February 2014

Number of responses = 115 (UK =77)

1) Which syringe driver do you mainly use for CSCI in your palliative care practice? (one\_of)

answer	UK votes	% of UK vote	Total votes	% of total vote
Alaris AD	1	1%	1	1%
CADD fixed rate pump	0	0%	2	2%
Graseby MS16	0	0%	3	3%
Graseby MS26A	2	3%	5	4%
CME T34 (McKinley T34)	73	95%	97	84%
Micrel MP mL/h	1	1%	2	2%
Micrel MP daily	0	0%	1	1%
Other	0	0%	4	3%

2) Has your service considered swapping to an alternative device? (one\_of)

answer	UK votes	% of UK vote	Total votes	% of total vote
Yes, already swapped	62	81%	75	65%
Yes, currently in progress	2	3%	3	3%
Yes, but decided not to for cost reasons	0	0%	2	2%
Yes, but decided not to for other practical reasons	0	0%	2	2%
No	11	14%	32	28%

The 32 responses of No were associated with the following syringe drivers stated in question 1:

21, CME T34 (McKinley T34)	1, CADD fixed rate pump
6, Other	1, Micrel MP mL/h
2, Graseby MS26A	1, Micrel MP daily

3) If you have swapped to an alternative device, have you come across any unanticipated issues or disadvantages with the new syringe driver? (freetext)

<i>The following issues identified were all for the CME T34 (McKinley T34/ Niki T34):</i>
Very short battery life of approximately 3–5 days (mentioned in 40% of responses)
Bulky and heavy; a burden to ambulatory patients (mentioned in 15% of responses)
Cost of dedicated giving sets is very high
Education of other users, e.g. nursing home staff
Very rarely, errors occur when the pump has not been fully reset after taking out syringe. New syringe then uses previous syringes administration program
Issues around lines used and pressure settings needed
Cost of the lockboxes which break relatively easily
Initial procedural problems with where the key is stored and who keeps them
Tight fit in lock box when using 30mL syringes
It took some time to be comfortable with the new syringe driver. We had to have the software changed to accommodate the way they are used
Doesn't recognise all syringe types
Found it tricky to get the machines clean because of all the small moving parts on the back
Frequently require servicing

4) If you have swapped to an alternative device, do you have associated procedures/training procedures/servicing procedures/prescribing documentation / discharge information that you would be willing to share? (yes\_no)

<i>answer</i>	<i>Total votes</i>	<i>% of total vote</i>
Yes	30	26%
No	46	40%

5) Which syringe driver do you mainly use for spinal infusions in palliative care? (one\_of)

<i>answer</i>	<i>UK votes</i>	<i>% of UK vote</i>	<i>Total votes</i>	<i>% of total vote</i>
Alaris AD	1	1%	1	1%
CADD fixed rate pump	9	12%	21	18%
Graseby MS16	0	0%	0	0%
Graseby MS26A	0	0%	1	1%
CME T34 (McKinley T34)	5	6%	6	5%
Micrel MP mL/h	0	0%	1	1%
Micrel MP daily	0	0%	0	0%
Other	2	3%	4	3%
Do not use spinal infusions	57	74%	78	67%

6) Where do you usually obtain compatibility information when mixing drugs for CSCI? (many\_of)

<i>answer</i>	<i>Total votes</i>	<i>% of total vote</i>
Local compatibility charts / information	52	45
PCF compatibility charts	57	49
Palliativedrugs.com syringe driver survey database (SDSD)	68	59
Other	41	35

7) Have you ever submitted information on compatibility of mixing drugs for CSCI to the palliativedrugs.com SDS? (yes\_no)

<i>answer</i>	<i>Total votes</i>	<i>% of total vote</i>
Yes	18	16%
No	93	80%

8) If you have not submitted information on compatibility of mixing drugs for CSCI to the SDS, which of the following applies? (many\_of)

<i>answer</i>	<i>Total votes</i>	<i>% of total vote</i>
Did not know I could submit information	44	38
Time constraints	18	16
Not at a computer when I have the information	14	12
Submission process not user-friendly	0	0
Don't use the database for checking combinations	13	11
Other	15	13

*Editor's note:* we encourage all health professionals to enter any unique drug combinations that you have used for which you have had little or no physical laboratory or chemical compatibility data, especially if you have experienced incompatibility.