

Alfentanil Spray 5mg in 5ml Help Sheet

Assembly and Use

An Alfentanil Spray comes in two parts. There is an amber glass bottle containing 5ml of Alfentanil 5mg in 5ml solution and a plastic bag containing a sterile nasal/buccal spray pump unit. There are three white plastic elements present within the plastic bag, the pump mechanism – a white cap which will screw onto the glass bottle with two thin plastic tubes coming from it, the buccal spray head – a spray button with 4 inch long delivery tube and the nasal spray head – a nostril shaped spray head with clear plastic cover

To assemble a spray, aseptically open the plastic bag and push the buccal spray head onto the shorter of the two plastic tubes of the pump mechanism. Open the amber glass bottle and screw the pump mechanism (plus buccal spray head) onto the bottle. The nasal spray head is not required and should be disposed of appropriately.

Once the pump has been assembled it can only be used for 28 days and any remaining solution must be appropriately discarded and a new spray started.

Before the pump is used for the first time, it will need to be primed. This is achieved by fully depressing the spray button twice and this fills the pump mechanism. This only needs to be done when first setting up the pump not before each use.

To use the spray, place the delivery tube inside the mouth and spray the required number of sprays onto the inside of the cheek.

Ordering

Alfentanil Spray is a controlled drug and must be ordered using the normal procedures for controlled drugs.

For ward stock - order via the controlled drug order book

For TTOs - The prescription requirements for controlled drugs must be observed. Specify that Alfentanil 5mg in 5ml sprays are required and request a number of sprays to be dispensed e.g. supply two (2) sprays along with the dosage instructions

Storage

Alfentanil Spray is, as stated above, a Controlled drug. On receipt of ward stock the number of sprays received must be recorded in the controlled drug register and the sprays stored in the controlled drugs cupboard. It is suggested that this page in the register is titled Alfentanil Sprays 5mg in 5ml Ward Stock.

When a spray has been allocated to a patient, it must be placed inside a resealable plastic bag (to keep it clean) and stored in the controlled drug cupboard

Recording requirements

When a patient is prescribed a spray, one spray must be signed out of ward stock and a new page in the controlled drugs register started labelled Alfentanil Spray 5mg in 5ml for the patient concerned. Record the balance present in the bottle as 5ml. The spray bottle must be labelled with the patients name and the date the spray is assembled.

Whenever the patient uses the spray a record of the time of usage and the number of sprays administered must be recorded on this page in the controlled drug register along with the nurses signature. Deduct 0.14ml for each spray administered to the patient. (n.b. A sheet counting down from 5 in 0.14 intervals is available from the Pharmacy if required) to indicate the balance remaining within the bottle.

To perform a Controlled Drug balance check, visually inspect the bottle and estimate if the volume present within the spray bottle corresponds to the balance in the Controlled Drugs register.

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF CONTAMINATION TO THE SPRAY BOTTLE, **DO NOT** OPEN IT TO CHECK THE VOLUME REMAINING. IF YOU ARE CONCERNED THAT THE BALANCE IS INCORRECT THEN QUARANTINE THAT SPRAY BOTTLE, INFORM YOUR WARD MANAGER, START A NEW SPRAY AND CONTACT THE PHARMACY.

When a patient is to be discharged DO NOT give them the spray they have been using on the ward, this must be kept for destruction on the ward, as it remains part of the ward stock. New sprays must be ordered for TTOs.

Patient Information

Alfentanil sprays are only prepared by Torbay Pharmacy Manufacturing unit in this country and have never been used in this part of the country before. If a patient is discharged into the community they must be made aware that if they require further supplies that their local Pharmacy will not have any and it will take at least one week to order them.

A patient information sheet must be given to the patient on discharge so that they can inform their G.P and local Pharmacy what they require and how they can be obtained. The patient must be instructed that they should order them well in advance to allow ordering and delivery from Torbay.