

## You must contact your nurse if:

- The pump gets wet
- The pump is dropped
- The colour of the medicines in the tubing or syringe have changed
- There is cloudiness or there are bits in the tubing or syringe
- The skin around the cannula is red, swollen or sore
- Liquid leaks where the cannula goes into the skin
- The tubing or syringe appears wet
- Cannula has fallen out
- Tubing is not connected to the cannula and/ or syringe
- The alarm sounds.

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**If you are at home, phone the community nurse or the Out of Hours Service as soon as possible.**

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## Useful Contact Details

Community Nurse: .....

Out of Hours Service: .....

GP: .....

### Other

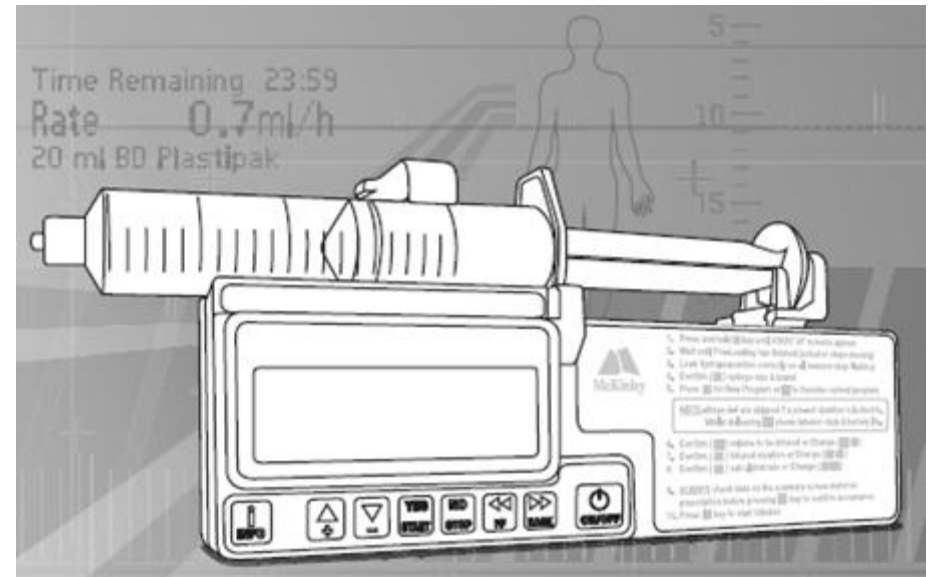
Who: ..... Tel: .....

Who: ..... Tel: .....



# Important information about your McKinley T34 Syringe Pump

## A Guide for Patients & Carers



## **What is a McKinley T34 Syringe Pump?**

It is a small battery pump with a syringe that has your medicines in it. The medicines are given through a cannula which is a small plastic tube put into the fatty layer under the skin. The medicines are absorbed into the body. The pump delivers your medicine slowly over 24 hours. The pump can be used to give you one, two or three medicines.

## **Why do I need a pump?**

Using a pump does not mean that your medicines have stopped working or are not strong enough. It is sometimes necessary for you to be given your medicines this way. Your nurse will tell you why in more detail. Two common reasons are listed below.

- 1) You may have been feeling sick or have been sick and find it hard to keep your medicines down. Medicines to stop you being sick can be given by the pump at the same time as other medicines to help with things such as pain. Once you have stopped being sick you might be able to go back to swallowing your medicines.
- 2) You may not be able to swallow or absorb medicines given by mouth. The pump gives you the medicines you need in a different way. It also means you do not need a lot of injections.

## **Living with your pump**

A nurse will check regularly to see how you are. They will check the pump and also check the skin around the cannula is not red, swollen or sore. If you are at home the nurse will do the checks when they visit. You or the person who looks after you may be asked if either of you would like to do the checks. If so, the nurse will tell you exactly what to do.

## **A nurse will put new medicine(s) into your syringe every 24 hours**

Sometimes you may need to take other medicines even though you have a pump. If you are at home and are able to swallow medicines, make sure you have enough tablets, capsules or liquids to take should you have any symptoms such as pain or sickness. Let the nurse know if you have taken any medicines, prescribed or non-prescribed, that are not in your pump.

- You should keep the pump and the cannula site dry. If you drop the pump into water you must contact the nurse as soon as possible. You will need a new syringe pump.
- You can go out and about with the pump. It is small enough to be put in a pouch that can be worn as a shoulder bag or something similar.
- You should not put the pump near anything hot, like a heat pad, electric blanket, hot water bottle or naked flame. Please note that pouches are highly flammable.
- You should not let the pump be exposed to direct sunlight. It should be kept in the blue bag or pouch, or something similar, to protect from light at all times.
- Try to keep mobile phones that are switched on, about an arm's length away. They may affect the way the pump works.
- If you drive, you should ask the nurse if the medicines in the pump will affect your driving.

## **How do I know my McKinley T34 pump is working?**

The light above the ON/OFF button flashes green every 64 seconds. If it turns red, or does not flash, there is a problem with the pump. Contact the nurse as soon as possible.

## **Your nurse will discuss with you what to do if the alarm sounds**