



Guideline to provide training to patients and families for self-administration of medications via subcutaneous line and syringe driver.

Mary Potter Hospice recognises the need to train appropriate patients, families and carers to self-administer medications during the COVID-19 outbreak. We are trying to maintain good safe care, but reduce the amount of direct contact staff and patients have.

Patient selection and preparation by the community team is vital. If there is doubt please discuss this with a senior clinician. Always consider whether the patient's medications can be converted to sublingual (for ease of administration).

Patients should only be directed to videos which are relevant to their needs to minimise the risk of unnecessary confusion. All videos have been appropriately titled and these titles need to be provided to patient alongside the URL to access the videos. This should be done in writing / electronically.

Synopses of the available training videos are provided in the appendix.

There may be questions generated by patients and carers from watching these videos. It is imperative these questions are answered before the initial administration.

There will be ongoing review of the appropriateness of the training video resources for individual patients and if needs be, adjustment to how medications are administered if the training is not useful for that patient.



Appendix 1

Video 1 – Giving Sublingual Medication



This video demonstrates how a carer will administer a prepared sublingual medication to the patient appropriately.

Mary Potter Hospice website: <https://marypotter.org.nz/our-care/publications/>

You Tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L56Mlf3SPco>

Video 2 – Inserting a subcutaneous line



This video demonstrates how a patient's carer will insert a subcutaneous line (*BD Saf-T-Intima 22ga*) using aseptic technique.

Mary Potter Hospice website: <https://marypotter.org.nz/our-care/publications/>

You Tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIF7wQSXRgg>

Video 3 – Connecting a loaded syringe driver



This video demonstrates how a patient will connect a pre-loaded and running Niki T34 syringe driver.

Mary Potter Hospice website: <https://marypotter.org.nz/our-care/publications/>

You Tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VT-AYjs9J10>



Video 4 – Setting up a Syringe Driver



This video demonstrate how a patient will connect a syringe to an extension line, load the syringe onto the Niki T34 driver, and connect the Niki T34 syringe driver to the subcutaneous line.

Mary Potter Hospice website: <https://marypotter.org.nz/our-care/publications/>

You Tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrvioOiWHWc>

Video 5 – Drawing up Medications from a Glass Ampoule



This video demonstrates safe technique for drawing up a medication from a glass ampoule for immediate or later administration.

Patients will need to be informed of the indication, drug, amount, storage or saline flush administration.

Mary Potter Hospice website: <https://marypotter.org.nz/our-care/publications/>

You Tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofWHhCkudKk>

Video 6 – Drawing up Medications from a Plastic Ampoule



This video demonstrates safe technique for drawing up a medication from a plastic ampoule for immediate or later administration.

Patients will need to be informed of the indication, drug, amount, storage or saline flush administration.

Mary Potter Hospice website: <https://marypotter.org.nz/our-care/publications/>

You Tube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=epNE3bVbQiY>