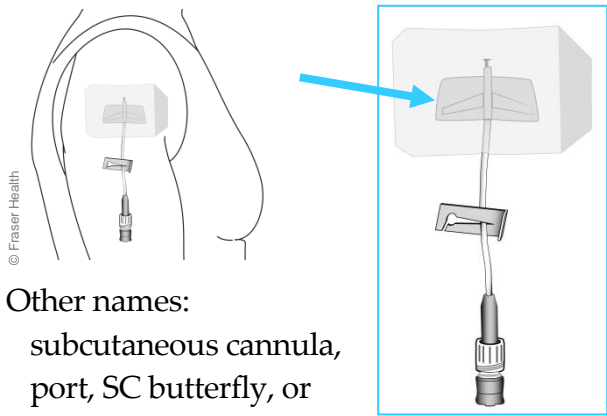


Using a Pump at Home for Medication

Your doctor has asked that you get your medication through a small needle under your skin. The sites are usually on your chest, arms, stomach, or upper part of the legs. This is what the needle and tubing looks like:



Other names:

subcutaneous cannula,
port, SC butterfly, or
Sub-Q catheter

You will have 2 sites put in by the nurse. The medicine will be given by a pump connected to the tubing. The pump has a computer that will give medication slowly and nonstop.

Why use a pump for medication?

- Allows you to get medicine when you are not able to swallow medicines.
- It is the best way for some medicines to get into your body.
- It can stay in place for a number of days.
- It could help you and your family to sleep better during the night.

What do I need to know about the pump?

- The pump should not get wet.
- The pump will come in a small case to make it easy to carry around.
- When you are in bed the pump can lie beside you or go under the pillow.
- If you want to have a shower:
 - put the pump in a plastic shopping bag and use a coat hanger to hang it on a hook or towel rack outside the shower.
 - Or check if you can disconnect the pump for a short time. Ask your nurse to show you.

What do I need to watch for?

Check your needle site at least 2 times a day. Do not use the site if you notice any of the following:

- redness
- pain
- bruising
- blood in the tubing
- swelling
- leaking
- bleeding

Check the tubing and tell the nurse if:

- the fluid in the tubing is cloudy
- the fluid looks like there are crystals or sediment

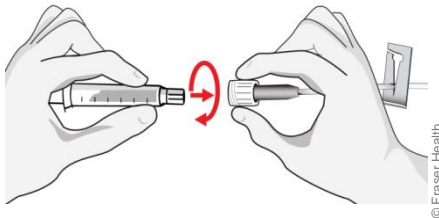
Tell your nurse about what you see and ask how to change to another site.

Getting ready:

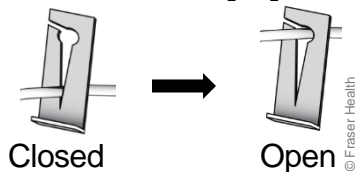
- Wash your hands with soap and water.
- Get an alcohol swab ready.
- Check the medication label on the butterfly. Make sure it matches the kind of medication from your pump.
- Check the tubing.
- Check the site where the butterfly enters the skin.

Giving the medication

1. Open an alcohol swab.
2. Rub the end of the butterfly tubing with the alcohol swab.
3. Let the end dry for 30 to 40 seconds.
4. Remove the tubing from the site that is not working. Keep the ends clean.
5. Hold the end of the butterfly tubing with your other hand.
6. Push and twist the tubing onto the end of the butterfly. Turn until attached.



7. Slide the lock clamp open.



8. Write down the date and time you changed to the new site.
9. Let the nurse know, so an extra site can be started again.

When do I change the batteries?

On the screen, you will see a battery life icon, like a cell phone. When it turns yellow, change the batteries.

How do I store the medication?

All medication should be labelled and kept in a safe and secure place (You might need to keep some in the fridge or a dark place). Ask your nurse.

How do I get rid of the old medication?

Keep new and old medication away from children and pets. The old medication in needles (including used needles), tubing, and bags can harm pets and children. Throw away used medication tubing/ bags/ needles in a safe and secure garbage bag.

If you have any questions or concerns about the medications or using the pump, contact your healthcare team.