

Going home with a CADD Pump



SPH Palliative Care Program

What is a CADD Pump?

C.A.D.D. stands for Continuous Ambulatory Drug Device.

It is a type of pump controlled by the patient. The pump delivers a continuous rate of a medication often used to help control pain.

How does the pump work?

The pump is programmed to provide you with a set amount of medication every hour to keep you comfortable. If you need additional medication to control your pain, press the blue 'PCA' button on the pump.

Pressing this button will give you what is called a 'demand/break-through dose'.

The amount of demand doses your doctor has ordered, has also been programmed into the pump, so you cannot give yourself too much.

How do I care for the pump?

Here are some tips to care of your pump while off the unit:

- Carry the pump in the travel pouch given to you.
- Try to keep the tubing from getting kinked.
- Avoid getting the tubing caught in the zipper of the travel pouch.
- Wear the strap over your arm, if comfortable.
- Avoid getting the pump wet.
- Avoid dropping or having the pump bang against an object.
- Check the pump regularly to see that it is working well.

Safety checks your nurse will do



Your nurse will check to make sure:

- ✓ The settings of your pump work well to manage your pain.
- ✓ The batteries in your pump are charged.
- ✓ The amount of medication in your pump will last for the time that you are away.
- ✓ The dressing at the catheter site is secure.
- ✓ All caps are well fastened.
- ✓ Any warning lights on the pump have been addressed.
- ✓ You or your family's questions are answered, regarding caring for the pump and when to call unit.
- ✓ You feel comfortable going home with the pump.

When should I call the palliative care unit?



- You are having more pain than usual.
- You are having to press the blue 'PCA' button more often than usual.
- Your arm, where the medication is infusing, is damp to touch.
- The blue cap is missing from the end of the butterfly port.
- The site, where the catheter enters your skin, feels hard, hot, swollen, tender, painful or appears to be leaking.
- The catheter is no longer all the way under the skin.
- The alarms are going off on the pump.
- You feel that something is 'off' or strange.

Enjoy your time off the unit.

Remember, we are only a phone call away!

SPH Palliative Care Program

905-777-3837

3E: ext. 12234

3W: ext. 12250