Infusions – Ordering Syringe Drivers and Subcutaneous Infusions

Digital Health

Digital Health Quick Reference Guide

This Quick Reference Guide will explain how to:

Order a Syringe Driver and Subcutaneous Infusion.

Refer to EMPRCC Guidelines for syringe driver compatibility and appropriate diluents – use the evidence link in the orderset to launch guidelines.
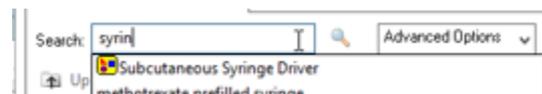
The EMR cannot check drug compatibilities.
The system will not alert the prescriber if prescribing drugs or diluents that are considered incompatible.

No more than 3 drugs should be combined in a syringe driver.
This is an instruction to the prescriber. The system cannot limit the number of medications added to a syringe driver.

Ordering a Syringe Driver
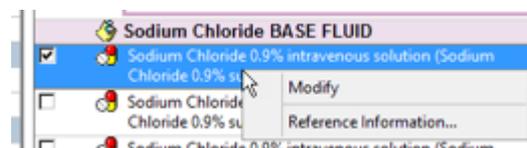
1. Navigate to "Orders and Referrals" and Click +Add

2. Type into the search field "syringe" – this will display the *Subcutaneous Syringe Driver Orderset*

3. Click on the orderset – the Subcutaneous Syringe Driver Orderset will launch

4. Use the evidence link next to the heading to access the Western Health Syringe Driver Niki T34 (Subcutaneous Pump) procedure.

5. Select the tickbox next to the base fluid

6. Right click on the order and select modify – this defaults to the continuous details tab
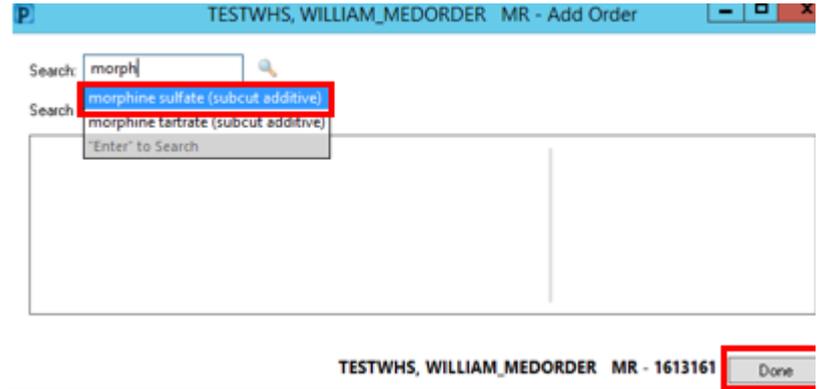

7. Click additive icon

8. Search for and select appropriate additive and select "Done"
(Note: you can add all required additives from this window before clicking Done)

   The suffix of "subcut additive" is used for syringe drivers only.

9. Complete additive dose field including units

10. Review remaining fields in "continuous details' – rate, infuse over (pre-defined as 24 hours) and bag volume (pre-defined as up to 18 mL)

11. Review Order Comments – "SYRINGE DRIVER 1". This is to allow for the fact that more than one syringe driver may need to be ordered to account for any incompatibilities.
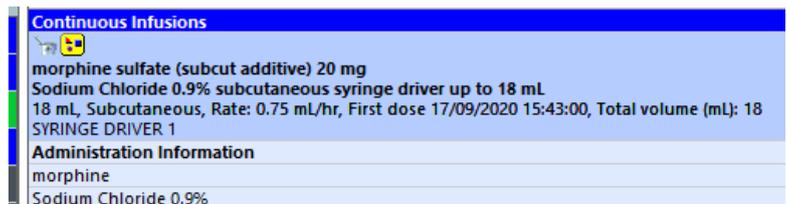

12. Review fields in the details tab – route is predefined as subcutaneous

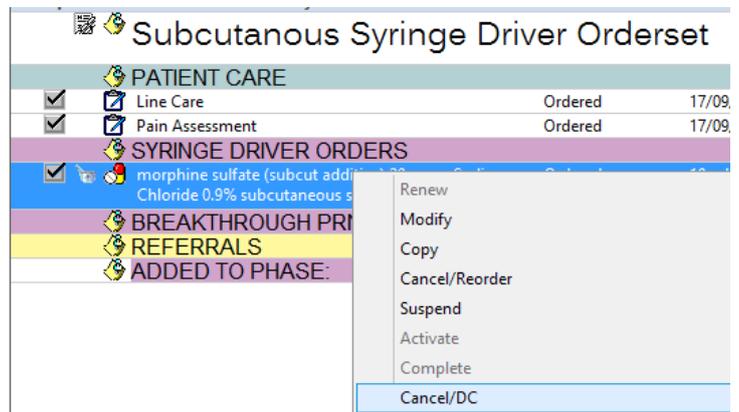13. Select any PRN orders. Then Select **Orders For Signature** and **Sign**

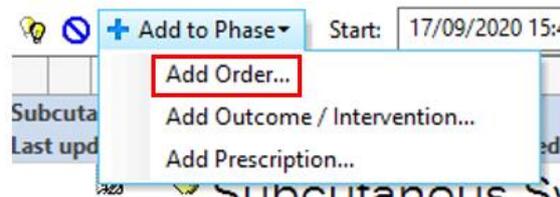14. Refresh and review the medication on the MAR
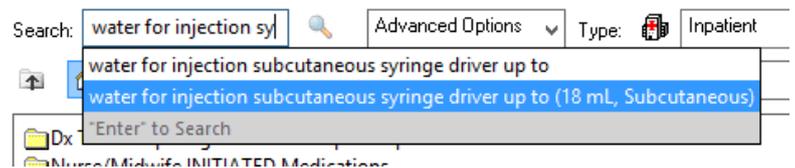
Reordering a Syringe Driver

15. Do not use "Modify" to add an additive or change a medication dose – a new order needs to be placed.

16. In the orders tab go to the initiated syringe driver orderset, right click the syringe driver infusion order and select cancel/DC. You will be required to enter a discontinuation reason (e.g. "dosage adjustment").

17. To reorder a syringe driver, select "Add to Phase" then "Add Order".

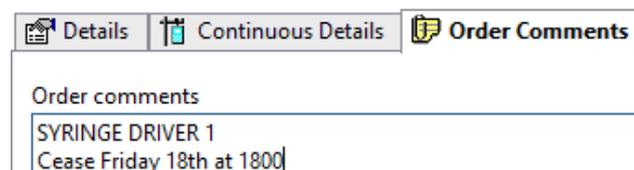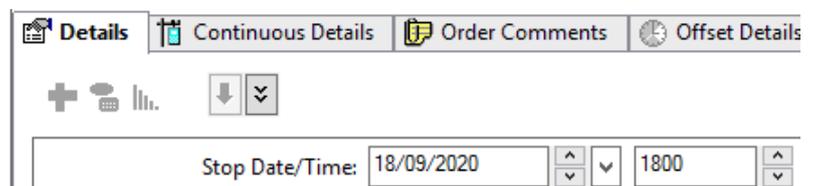18. Search for and select the appropriate base diluent subcutaneous syringe driver order.

19. Then repeat steps 8-14.

Future Stop Time

20. To specify a future time that the syringe driver should be ceased, right click and "Modify" the order

21. Complete the Stop Date/Time fields in the details tab

22. Add an Order Comment

23. Then Select [Orders For Signature] and [Sign]

Note: This will indicate to nursing staff when the syringe driver should be ceased. It is still the responsibility of the medical team to Cancel/DC the order on the EMR.