Going home with a CADD Pump

Information for patients

Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU)
This leaflet will provide you with information about the safe use and care of your CADD (Computerised Ambulatory Delivery Device) pump, if you are going to be having ambulatory treatment (treatment at home) or will be staying on site in the Ambulatory flat.

The CADD pump allows you to safely receive chemotherapy either continuously (all the time) or intermittently (at specific times). You may also receive other medicines or fluids through the pump.

Before you go home with the device, your chemotherapy nurse will have explained how to use the CADD pump. They will make sure that you (and your carer, if necessary) have agreed to having ambulatory treatment and that you fully understand how the device works. They will check you feel confident in using the CADD pump at home or in the Ambulatory on-site flat.
How does the CADD pump work?

The pump will be attached to a cassette or infusion bag, which will contain the chemotherapy, medication or fluid. This will all be placed into a bag or pouch, which can be worn on your back, over your shoulder or around your waist, depending the weight of the dose you are having.

Your chemotherapy nurse will program the pump to deliver the chemotherapy, medication or fluid at an exact dose per hour and at exact times, as your doctor has prescribed.

The pump will have new batteries inserted before you take it home. The key pad will be locked, so that the programming cannot be changed by accident.

On the first day of your treatment, before you leave the Ambulatory Care Unit, you will be given some specific appointment times. It is very important that you return to the Ambulatory Care Unit for these appointments, so you can have the pump removed or the cassette/bag and batteries changed.
If there are any problems with your pump, please contact the Ambulatory Care Unit.
Tel: **01865 226 513**
(8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday).

If you are unable to get through, or you need help outside of hours, please telephone Cancer and Haematology Triage (see the end of the leaflet for contact details). You may need to return to the hospital to have the pump checked or replaced.

**Do not disconnect the tubing yourself, as this may cause the chemotherapy to spill.**

### Using the CADD pump

When you start using the CADD pump you will need to make some minor adjustments to your daily activities:

- As water can damage the pump, place it on a stool or chair next to the bath or shower when you bathe.

- When you sleep, the pump can be put on a chair next to your bed. You must make sure the pump and cassette/bag holding the fluid is **always upright**. This will allow the infusion to run without interruptions. If the bag is not left upright this can cause an air bubble in the pump or a kink in the line, which will prevent the pump from working.

- Do not play any contact sports (because of the risk of injury or the pump becoming detached or damaged).

- Protect the pump so it is not dropped or hit. The pump may be damaged if hit with a hard object.

- If you have animals at home or contact with small children, keep the pump out of reach at all times. You must also be careful with your central line, to make sure it does not get pulled or damaged.

- If there is a pregnant woman in your home when you are having the ambulatory chemotherapy and there is a spillage, they should not touch or come in to contact with the spillage. If they do come into contact with the chemotherapy, contact us immediately and run the area of skin under water for at least 10 minutes.
How will I know the CADD pump is working?

1. Occasionally check the pump is making a low ‘whirring’ sound. This means it is working correctly.

2. Check the volume of liquid in the bag or cassette is gradually going down. If the pump is set up to deliver intermittent doses of your drug, your nurse will explain to you the timings for when this will happen. In between doses, the pump will continue to run slowly, administering saline (or another solution) which will run from a separate cassette/bag.

3. The ‘ResVol’ measurement on the screen should gradually go down as the fluid is delivered. If this number is not decreasing please contact Cancer and Haematology Triage.
Potential problems with the CADD pump

If the pump is sounding an alarm or has turned off, this is usually due to air or a kink in the line or flat batteries.

If your pump turns off or shows an ‘error’ sign whilst your treatment should still be running, you must contact Cancer and Haematology Triage to inform them. You should turn off the pump (if it is not already off) and close all clamps on the pump, if you are able to do so. Please confirm with Cancer and Haematology Triage when you should return to hospital for the pump to be reviewed.

If you hear a continuous high pitched sound alarm

• Press the start/stop button to stop the pump and silence the alarm.

• Check the tubing to make sure there is no kink in the line and all the clamps are open.

• Make sure the pump and infusion cassette/bag are upright, to prevent blocking off the CADD pump.

• Make sure the tubing is threaded through the pump’s air detector channel properly. Your chemotherapy nurse will show you how to do this when you are in the Ambulatory Care Unit.

If these actions do not solve the problem, close all clamps, turn the pump off and contact Cancer and Haematology Triage. Please call ahead to tell them you are returning, if possible.
If you hear a beeping sound alarm

- Check the reservoir volume to see if it is low or empty.
- If the reservoir is empty, turn the pump off and clamp the line.
- Your pre-booked appointment at the Ambulatory Care Unit should be within the next two hours.
  If it is not, please telephone Cancer and Haematology Triage and tell the nursing staff that your pump is empty.
- The beeping may also suggest the pump has stopped. The message on the pump will confirm if the pump has stopped.
- If ‘LOW BAT’ appears on the pump screen when the pump is beeping, this means the batteries will need to be changed soon. Speak to Cancer and Haematology Triage if you are not due to come to the hospital in the next two hours.

If you have any problems with your pump, please contact Cancer and Haematology Triage. Tell them that you are an Ambulatory Care patient. They can then troubleshoot any problems. Please be aware that you may need to come back to the hospital.

You will need to return to the hospital if the pump turns off due to low batteries or the batteries run out. You will also need to return if there is air detected in the line.

Report any alarms the pump makes to Cancer and Haematology Triage.
What else do I need to do?

You must check your central line site (PICC line or Hickman line) regularly and report any problems to Cancer and Haematology Triage.

Problems may include:

- lifting of the waterproof dressing
- visible leaking of fluid and/or swelling under the dressing
- any leakage from the tubing
- signs of infection at the site, including redness, pain, heat, or swelling.

You must call 999 if you develop any chest pain, difficulty breathing (e.g. wheezing, shortness of breath) or any swelling of your throat or face. These symptoms may mean you are having a very serious allergic reaction.
What should I do if my chemotherapy spills or leaks?

It is possible to accidentally spill chemotherapy if the connection between the pump and your line comes loose or if the line becomes damaged whilst treatment is running.

You will be given a spillage kit by the hospital, including instructions for how to use it and a patient information leaflet about ‘Dealing with a chemotherapy spillage at home’. Keep the kit and the information accessible when you have your chemotherapy pump attached and make sure that your carer or family members also know how to use it.
The main instructions to follow are:

• Restrict the area immediately.
• Keep all people out of the spillage area (especially children and pregnant women), except the minimum required to clear the spillage up.

If your chemotherapy spills you must:

1. Turn off the CADD pump.
2. Open the spillage kit (away from the spillage) and put on disposable gloves and personal protective equipment.
3. Soak up the spill using the bio-wipe bag, absorbent pad and towels provided. Allow to dry.
4. Clean the area with water only and leave to dry again.
5. Remove the gloves, blue protective gown and face mask and place these into the yellow bag provided. Put new gloves on and put the pump (and blue bag, if it is in one) into the yellow bag. Remove the gloves and put into the yellow bag. Tie the top of the bag loosely.
6. Return to the hospital with the yellow bag, when it is safe to so. Support the weight of the bag. Someone should drive you to the hospital to prevent further spillage.
7. Call Cancer and Haematology Triage to tell them about the spillage and that you are on your way.

Chemotherapy that spills onto skin may cause irritation. If this happens, immediately hold the affected area under cool water for 10 minutes. Do not scrub the skin; unbroken skin provides protection. If chemotherapy splashes in to eyes, immediately rinse them with running water. Keep the water running over the eyes for 10 to 15 minutes.

Follow the full instructions in the ‘Dealing with a chemotherapy spillage at home’ leaflet.
How to stop the pump

• Press and hold the start/stop key.

• Three dashes will appear one by one on the pump’s screen.

• When you see the third dash, take your finger off the button.

• ‘STOPPED’ will appear on the pump screen.

How to start the pump

• Press and hold the start/stop key.

• You will see three dashes on the screen.

• The pump screen will go through a self check.

• It will return to the home screen, which says RUN. insert ‘run’ photo.
How to contact us

Cancer and Haematology Triage
Tel: 01865 272 192
(24 hours, 7 days a week)

Ambulatory Care Unit
Tel: 01865 226 513
Email: acute.chemotherapyteam@oxnet.nhs.uk

Oncology Ward
Tel: 01865 235 012
(24 hours, 7 days a week)

Haematology Ward
Tel: 01865 235 048/9
(24 hours, 7 days a week)

Acute Chemotherapy Team
Tel: 01865 226 513
(8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday)

If you need an interpreter or would like this information leaflet in another format, such as Easy Read, large print, Braille, audio, electronically or another language, please speak to the department where you are being seen. You will find their contact details on your appointment letter.