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Aseptic compounding practice in Ireland – how are we doing it?

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Aseptic Compounding Practice in Ireland – How are we doing it?

INTRODUCTION

In the ROHP (Regional Oncology Haematology Pharmacy) compounding is undertaken using the traditional syringe and needle technique for all hazardous drugs.

A number of different devices are available to aid the compounding process. These are being used by some hospitals internationally¹. A number of guidelines recommend the use of needle free or closed system devices to improve operator safety^{2,3,4,5}.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To assess whether compounding practice in the ROHP is the same as other hospitals in Ireland. To assess whether other hospitals are using closed system or needle free compounding devices.

METHOD

An audit of hospitals was undertaken to ascertain:

- whether compounding devices are used in pharmacy aseptic units
- which devices are used
- for which products the devices are used

RESULTS

11 hospital aseptic compounding units were audited.

- 46% use compounding devices on some products
 - These hospitals used compounding devices mostly for batch production/vial sharing where the vial would need to be punctured multiple times if using traditional needle and syringe technique. Compounding devices allow easy access to the vial multiple times, reducing the risk of coring.
- 45% were not using any compounding devices
- 9% of hospitals use compounding devices on all products

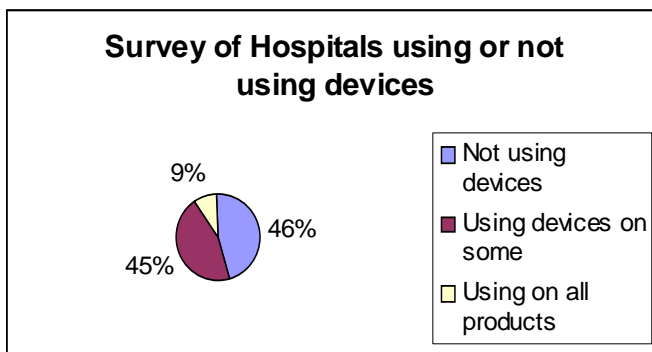


Fig 1: Hospitals in Ireland using compounding devices

A number of different compounding devices are currently being used in Aseptic Units in Irish Hospitals (See Table 1).

| Manufacturer | Device name | Device parts | Picture | No. of hospitals in Ireland using the device |
|-----------------|--|--|---------|--|
| B Braun Medical | Chemospike | Chemo Mini-Spike vial access device | | 2 |
| Carmel Pharma | PhaSeal [®] | Injector, Protector and Bag Adaptor | | 1 |
| ICU medical | Spiros [®] and Genie [®] | Syringe adapter and Vial Adaptor | | 1 |
| Teva | Tevadaptor [®] | Syringe adapter, vial adaptor and infusion bag adaptor | | 1 – use for IV pushes |
| Helapet | Pharmavent | Venting needle | | 1 |

Table 1 - What compounding devices are being used in Irish Hospital Aseptic Compounding Units.

CONCLUSION and RECOMMENDATIONS

Current practice in ROHP is in line with 45% of other hospitals. However the use of a closed system or needle free system would be safer. The ROHP should review a change to needle free/closed-system devices.

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