Caring Safely at Home
palliative care education for caregivers

How to Give a Subcutaneous Injection via a Cannula Using Blunt Needle Technique

1. Wash your hands with soap and water and dry well.



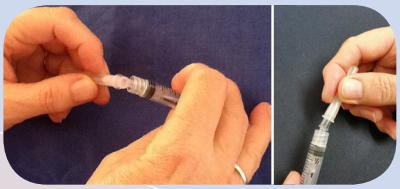
2. Gather all the equipment required and take the prepared syringes and a sharps or hard walled container to the person.



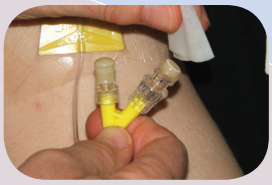
3. Check the injection site for redness, tenderness, swelling or leaking.



4. Remove the needle from the syringe using a twisting or screwing motion, then placing the needle directly into a sharps or hard wall container. Put the needle onto the syringe using a twisting or screwing action until secure.



5. Swab the white rimmed cap at the end of the cannula (optional), and then insert the blunt plastic needle into the centre of the white rimmed cap.



6. Slowly push the plunger of the syringe until all the medication has been given and then remove the needle from the cannula. Insert the second blunt plastic needle and repeat the process as necessary. Flush the cannula with 0.5ml sterile normal saline.



7. Dispose of the needle and syringe directly into the sharps or hard walled container.



8. Record the date and time the medication was given. Observe the effect of the medication and record the results.



9. Contact your nursing service/doctor if you have any concerns.



Contact Details: _____

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