

SUBCUTANEOUS INFUSION DRUG COMPATIBILITY CHART

	Morphine	Oxycodone	Methadone	Fentanyl	Clonazepam	Cyclizine	Dexamethasone	Glycopyrrolate	Haloperidol	Hyo,Butylbromide	Hyo. Hydrobromide	Ketamine	Metoclopramide	Midazolam	Nozinam	Octreotide	Phenobarbitone	Ranitidine
Morphine	♦		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
Oxycodone		♦			✓	#	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Methadone	✓		♦		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		x	
Fentanyl	✓			♦		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		x	
Clonazepam	✓	✓	✓		♦	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		x	✓
Cyclizine	✓	#		✓	✓	♦	#	✓	✓	#	✓	✓	✓	#	#	✓	x	#
Dexamethasone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	♦	x	#	✓	✓	✓	#	#	#	#	x	✓
Glycopyrrolate	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	♦	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	x	
Haloperidol	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	✓	♦	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	x	✓
Hyo.Butylbromide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	✓		✓	♦			✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
Hyo.Hydrobromide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		♦		✓	✓	✓	✓	x	
Ketamine	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			♦	✓	✓	✓		x	
Metoclopramide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	♦	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
Midazolam	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	#	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	♦	✓	✓	x	x
Nozinan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	#	#	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	♦	✓	x	#
Octreotide	✓	✓				✓	#	✓	#	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	♦	x	
Phenobarbitone	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	♦	x
Ranitidine	✓				✓	#	✓		✓	✓			✓	x	#		x	♦

Not Compatible: X

Compatible: ✓

Variable according to concentration: #

Drug Compatibility:

This table must be used as a guide only.

In clinical practice, every prescription should be checked to see if drug combination is compatible. It is always important to **continually** monitor contents of syringes and tubing to detect any incompatibility when there has been combination of medicines. (Twycross, Wilcock, Thorp.,1999).

It has been compiled from evidence in Dickman's The Syringe Driver, 2nd Ed (2005), and Palliative Care Formulary 5th ed (2014) and also from physical evidence in clinical practice at Arohanui Hospice.

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Mixing of Drugs for Subcut Infusion – Special Notes

Use Sodium chloride 0.9% to make up volume in the syringe, unless otherwise stated.

If there are infusion site problems:

1. Use a larger syringe to enable a more dilute solution therefore decreasing drug concentration
2. Change to 12 hrly regime, thereby permitting further dilution of drug
3. Change drug to a less irritant one
4. Add 1mg Dexamethasone to the syringe
5. Use a Saf-T-intima cannula instead of a metal butterfly

If incompatibility occurs (eg discoloration, precipitation, crystallization) and the prescribed drugs are essential:

1. Try mixing the combination in 23 ml total volume (in a 30ml syringe)
2. Use two separate pumps

Drugs:

Cyclizine	causes many drugs to precipitate and should always be diluted with Water for Injection and added last
Dexamethasone	add last as it will precipitate with some other drugs
Haloperidol	in concentrations greater than 1mg/ml will cause precipitation
Methadone	can cause severe site irritation, but adding 1mg Dexamethasone may help, or rotate sites every two days
Nozinan	can cause tissue reactions, always use Sodium Chloride which may reduce this occurrence