How Do I Administer Lovenox® with the Insuflon® catheter?

Before injecting Lovenox at home for the first time, you or your caregiver should receive instructions from your doctor or another qualified health care professional on the proper use of Lovenox and proper technique for injection into the Insuflon catheter. If you or your caregiver have any questions regarding your medication or the proper injection technique, please contact KC Clevenger, or the fellow on call at 303.861.6776.

Just follow these 10 steps:

1. Wash your hands with soap and water. Dry your hands.

2. Have you or your child sit or lie in a comfortable position so you can easily see the area of your stomach or thigh where you will be injecting into the catheter. A lounge chair, recliner, or bed (propped up with pillows) is ideal.

3. The catheter should be placed in an area on the right or left side of your tummy at 1-2 inches from your belly button and out toward your sides. Or an area on the top of your leg in the middle of your thigh.

4. Clean the catheter hub (where you will place the needle) with an alcohol swab. Allow the area to dry.

5. While the area is drying, carefully pull off the needle cap from the LOVENOX® syringe and discard cap. To keep the needle sterile once you have removed the cap, do not set the needle down or touch the needle.

6. Hold the syringe in the hand you write with, take the other hand and hold the hub of the catheter. Place the needle into the hub until it stops.

7. Press down on the plunger with your finger. This will deliver the medication into the fatty tissue of your stomach or thigh.
8. Remove the needle by pulling it straight out of the catheter hub while holding the catheter hub in place. To avoid bruising hold firm pressure over the catheter site for 3-5 minutes.

9. Dispose of your Lovenox syringe in the needle container provided.

10. Contact the Coagulation Nurse Practitioner, KC Clevenger, at 303.861.6776.

Remember:

- The Insufion catheter should be replaced every 7 days.
- Alternate the site of the Insufion catheter between the left and right sides of the stomach and thighs with each replacement.
- If you are left-handed, hold the syringe with your left hand.
- Minor pain or bruising may occur at the injection site. Your chances for these problems are lessened if you inject the medicine correctly and hold pressure.

Important Safety Information

- Lovenox (enoxaparin sodium) injection cannot be used interchangeably with other low-molecular-weight heparins or unfractionated heparin.
- As with other anticoagulants, use with extreme caution in patients with conditions that increase the risk of hemorrhage. Bleeding can occur at any site during therapy.
- Cases of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia have been observed in clinical practice, but are rarer with low-molecular-weight heparins than with unfractionated heparins.
- Lovenox should not be used in patients with hypersensitivity to enoxaparin sodium, heparin, or pork products, and in patients with active major bleeding.
- Common side effects include mild local reactions or irritation, pain, hematoma, bruising, and redness of skin. The heparin medication can cause burning upon injection.
- If you or your child develop excessive bleeding of the gums or excessive bruising in areas other the injection site, please contact KC Clevenger, Coagulation Nurse Practitioner or the Hematology Fellow on call at 303.861.6740.