

Medical Safety Information

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency

No.73

The related PMDA medical safety information No.23 revised version can be accessed here→



Use of Insulin-Specific Syringe

- An incorrect dose may cause serious adverse health effects.-

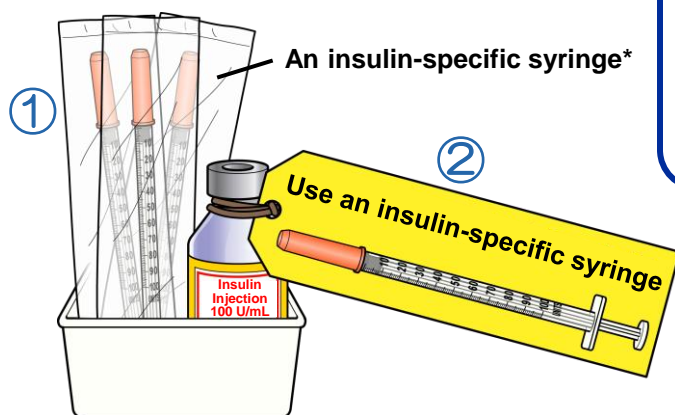
As a result of incorrect unit conversion due to failure to use an insulin-specific syringe when preparing insulin drawn from an insulin vial, cases in which a dose exceeding the instructed dose was administered have been repeatedly reported as medical accidents and near-miss incidents.

To prevent incorrect administration, use an insulin-specific syringe when using insulin vials.

POINT - Key points for safe use -

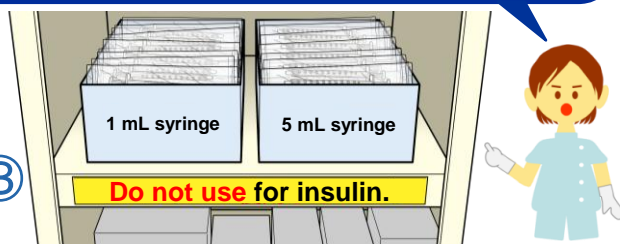
1 Create an environment that enables you to select an insulin-specific syringe.

< Examples of measures >



In order to create an environment that enables you to select an insulin-specific syringe when using an insulin vial, the following measures can be considered.

- 1 Place a vial and insulin-specific syringes together as a set.*
- 2 Tag the vial with a precautionary notice that guides you to use the insulin-specific syringe.
- 3 In a storage area for general syringes, display a precautionary notice stating, "Do not use for insulin."

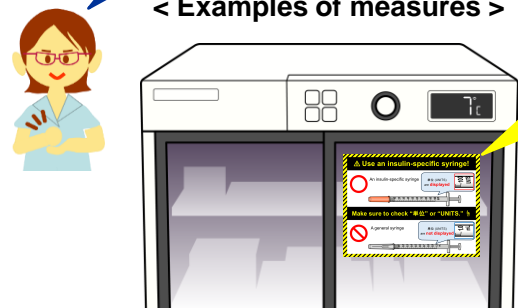


*Due to storage conditions for syringes varying between the marketing authorization holders (MAHs), please confirm with the MAHs when storing insulin-specific syringes refrigerated.

2 Make sure that "単位" or "UNITS" are displayed on the syringe.

It is also effective to place a precautionary notice on the refrigerator where insulin products are stored. The figure on the right is designed to be cut out and used as a notice.

< Examples of measures >



⚠ Use an insulin-specific syringe!

○

An insulin-specific syringe

単位 (UNITS) are **displayed**

Make sure to check "単位" or "UNITS."

⊘

A general syringe

単位 (UNITS) are **not displayed**

* PMDA Medical Safety Information is issued by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency for the purpose of supporting healthcare professionals to promote the safe use of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. The information presented here has been compiled, with the assistance of expert advice, from the following cases.

- Cases collected in the Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/Adverse Event Information and the Project to Collect and Analyze Pharmaceutical Near-Miss Events of the Japan Council for Quality Health Care
- Cases collected in Adverse Drug Reaction and Malfunction Reports in accordance with the Law on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices

* We have tried to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of its compilation but do not guarantee its accuracy in the future.

* This information is not intended to impose constraints on the discretion of healthcare professionals or to impose obligations and responsibility on them.