The Concept

Provision of an authoritative and comprehensive single source of evidence-based information on injectable medicines for use throughout the NHS in the UK and in other appropriate healthcare settings to maximise patient safety
3. Ensure essential technical information on injectable medicines is available and accessible to healthcare staff in clinical areas at the point of use.

Some injectable medicines do not have a package insert providing essential technical information about preparation and administration, or the information is insufficient to fully meet the needs of all healthcare staff. For example, an incompatibility between the diluent, infusion, other medicines or administration devices, and associated administration equipment. This technical information is not available in commonly used medicines references such as the British National Formulary.

A detailed guide to the safe preparation and administration of common intravenous medicines is available via NHSnet. The Injectable Guide is produced by pharmacists based in approximately 100 different UK hospitals and co-ordinated by the pharmacy department at Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust. A new partnership between The Injectable Guide and United Kingdom Medicines Information Service (UKMi) has been formed to expand and develop the content and availability.
What sources are there now?

- IV Guide
- BNF
- SPC/PIL
- UCL IV Guide
- Trissel
- King Guide
- Hospital IV Guides (>30)
Content

Prioritised by risk

- **Primary**
  - IV (mainstream and specialist)
  - Epidurals / spinals
  - Subcutaneous infusions
  - Other high risk situations/routes

- **Secondary**
  - Specialist admin routes
  - Blood products (BNF)
  - Specialist drugs (e.g. Botox)
  - Lower risk IM and SC injectables

- **Licensed, unlicensed, off-label**
NPSA Data Content

- Reconstitution
- Concentration of final solution
- Example calculations
- Dilution/flush solutions
- Stability in solution
- Administration rate
- **Compatibility information** (for commonly used mixtures in specialist areas only)
- Special handling information
- Specialist technical information (where relevant)
The Core Partners

- **IV Guide Group**
  - Subject knowledge/experience;
  - proven product; NHS-wide penetration;
  - collaborative writing, multidisciplinary links

- **UKMi**
  - UK wide; Evidence-based publications;
  - reputation for quality and governance-based products;
  - multidisciplinary links

- **RPSGB**
  - Professional umbrella; links with other professional organisations

- **DoH**
  - NHS-wide endorsement; policy and strategic links
External Partners/Stakeholders

- Specialist clinical users/contributors
e.g. oncology, anaesthetics

- Multidisciplinary users/contributors
e.g. nurses, doctors, pharmacists

- Primary and secondary care

- NHS and non-NHS healthcare providers

- Pharmaceutical industry
Delivering the Product - Options

Available at point-of-care/application

- Electronic
  - Medusa
  - NeLM
  - e-Prescribing
  - Commercial provider
  - PC/laptop, PDA, phone

- Paper
  - From e-version or standalone
  - Selective local printing
  - Keeping up-to-date (user and publisher issues)
  - Commercial publishing
1. Principles

- Trained, accredited, committed and reliable writers
- Comprehensive and guaranteed checking and governance framework
- Multidisciplinary and multispeciality input at all process stages
- User and stakeholder responsive
- Responsive to product changes
- Product is, at all times, up-to-date and fit-for-purpose
Production & Control Options

2. Structure

**Project Board**
Overall management and strategic leadership, incl. funding
Major stakeholders and national users groups

**Editorial Group**
Monograph consistency, policy adherence
Editor, IT, admin

**Clinical Steering Group**
Advising on clinical content, style, format, and delivery
Editor/ professional group reps, patient safety reps

**Team Leads**
Co-ordinate local writers/checkers, implement local training, accreditation and QA
Regional UKMi

**Operational Network Gps**
Writing and checking
Regional UKMi Team Leads, writers, checkers
Hurdles

- Writers and checkers
- Multidisciplinary and specialist input
- NHS-wide endorsement (DoH/NPSA)
- Project & maintenance funding
- Delivery platforms
- Creating ‘move-forward’ and ‘embrace change’ cultures
- Maintaining long-term momentum
Project Summary 1

- Develop an NHS-Injectable Medicines Guide to support patient safety and minimise risks with injectable medicines

- Build on the current IV Guide and the interim work being undertaken to bring it up-to-date

- Create a robust writing, training and clinical governance framework

- Develop appropriate electronic and/or paper delivery platforms
Project Summary 2

- Create a management structure which involves all key users, stakeholders and clinical disciplines
- Develop and implement a production plan for all injectable medicines used in the NHS, prioritised according to risk (n=〜700)
- Identify funding for a 2-3 year development project and then ongoing maintenance
- Roll-out across the NHS and make available to non-NHS healthcare providers
Next Steps

- Stakeholder consultation on the product and the project
- Rewrite preliminary business plan
- DoH facilitate identification of funding
- Start project
In developing the project, what are the user and stakeholder views on:

1. Format and content
2. Delivery platforms
3. Successful implementation
4. Multidisciplinary writing input