

## Insulin on MedChart – FAQs

Why can't I prescribe insulin using a generic name?

- Prescribing insulin using a generic name is considered high-risk, as the generic terms of insulin sound similar. Please prescribe insulin by Brand name.

Why do I need to co-sign giving "0" units on a supplemental insulin order?

- Insulin is a high-risk medication, and it is essential that the patient receives the correct dose. This includes situations where they do not need insulin based on their blood glucose level. This co-signature provides an extra safeguard to ensure patients do not miss a required dose of insulin.

Can my patient still self-administer their insulin?

- Yes, patients can still self-administer their insulin if deemed appropriate by their medical practitioner. For self-administration, please ensure you have prescribed a "FlexPen" device (not "Penfill") and tick the 'For Self-Administration' box.

Can my patient still self-titrate their insulin?

- Yes, patients can still self-titrate (select their dose from a prescribed range) their insulin if deemed appropriate by their medical practitioner.

What can I do if I need clarification about administering an insulin dose?

- If you are unsure about administering an insulin dose, you can seek advice from the ward NUM/ANUM and the ward pharmacist. If you still have questions, contact the patient's treating medical practitioner.

Why do I need to change the insulin device for discharge?

- Many patients will need the insulin device type changed for their Discharge Medication Checklist (DMC) to be dispensed correctly from the pharmacy and documented accurately for the patient. Please ensure you check any insulin orders for discharge have the device type "Flexpen" and not "Penfill".

What needs to be included in insulin orders on a DMC?

- The insulin brand name, dosing instructions and device type. Dosing instructions are included in the "Directions" column and should not be repeated in the daily timetable.

What about insulin infusions?

- There is no change to the current practice where insulin infusions are prescribed on Intravenous Order & Record (MR 169) or ICU Drug Infusion (MR 167) forms, per the [Intravenous Insulin Infusion Protocol](#).

What about insulin pumps/Continuous Subcutaneous Insulin Infusion?

- There is no change to the current practice per the [Inpatient Management of Continuous Subcutaneous Insulin Infusion \(CSII\) Guideline](#).
- Please ensure you chart the "Insulin pump check" on MedChart.