Analysis of Symposium Articles on Insulin Pen Devices and Alternative Insulin Delivery Methods

Devra K. Dang, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDE,¹ and Jennifer Lee, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDE²

Abstract

Insulin therapy is a fundamental component of diabetes management, yet there is often resistance to insulin initiation by both prescribers and patients. A barrier to insulin use is the perceived shortcomings with the traditional vial-and-syringe administration method (inconvenience, difficulty of use, association with disease and addiction, etc.). This symposium in the journal discusses the advantages of alternative insulin delivery methods, primarily insulin pen devices. Although these administration methods, especially insulin pens, have some clear advantages over the vial/syringe, there are also limitations to their use and careful patient selection and education are still needed.

J Diabetes Sci Technol 2010;4(3):558-561

Author Affiliations: ¹University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, Storrs, Connecticut; and ²CVS Pharmacy, Southbury, Connecticut

Abbreviations: (MPR) medication possession ratio

Keywords: adherence, insulin administration, insulin pen, insulin pump

Corresponding Author: Devra K. Dang, University of Connecticut, School of Pharmacy, 69 North Eagleville Rd U-3092, Storrs, CT 06269; email address <u>devra.dang@uconn.edu</u>